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Monthly Journal of Local Govt. and Public Administration in India

Vol. 4 | **Kanpur, September, 1956** | **No. 2**

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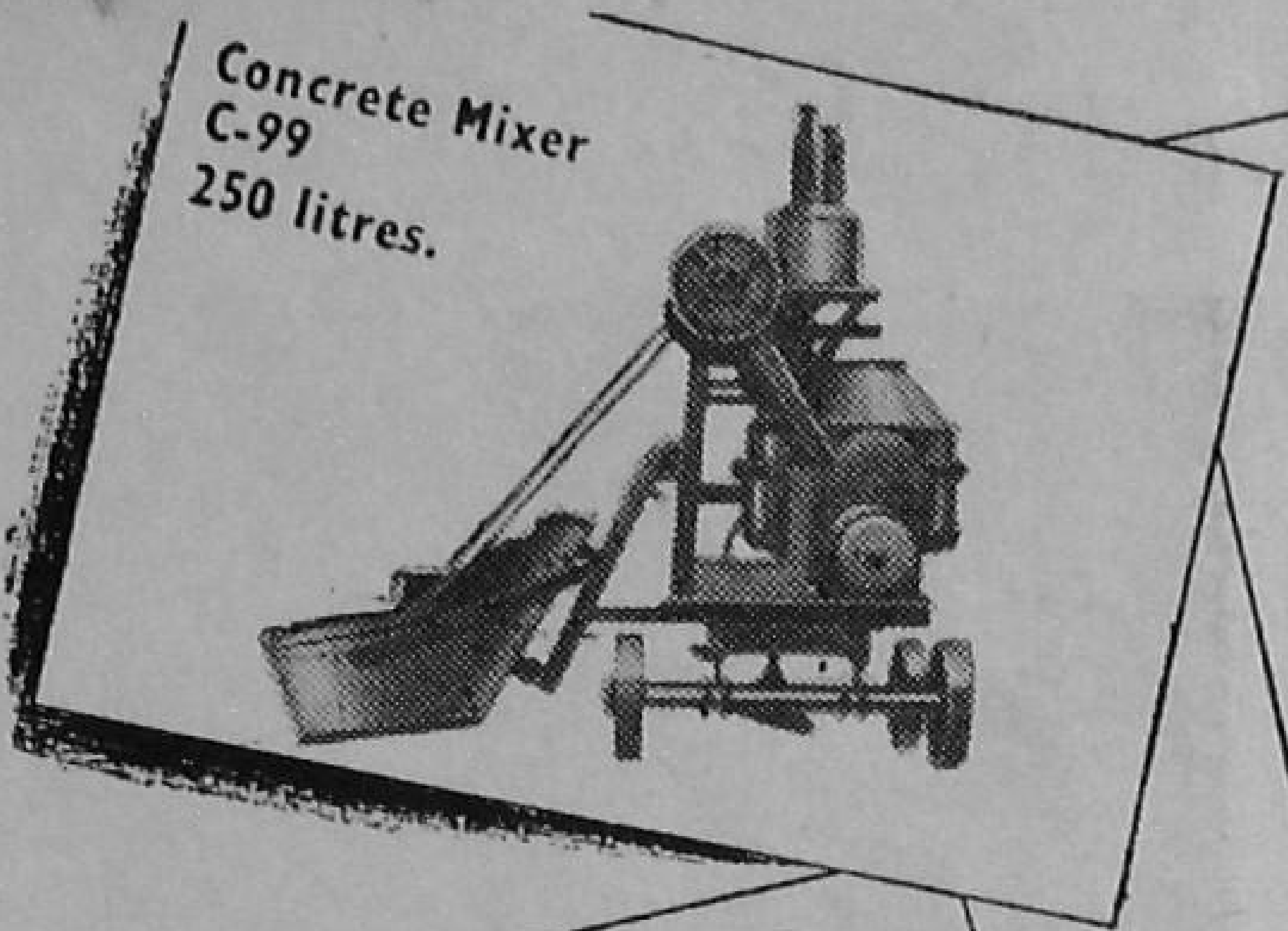

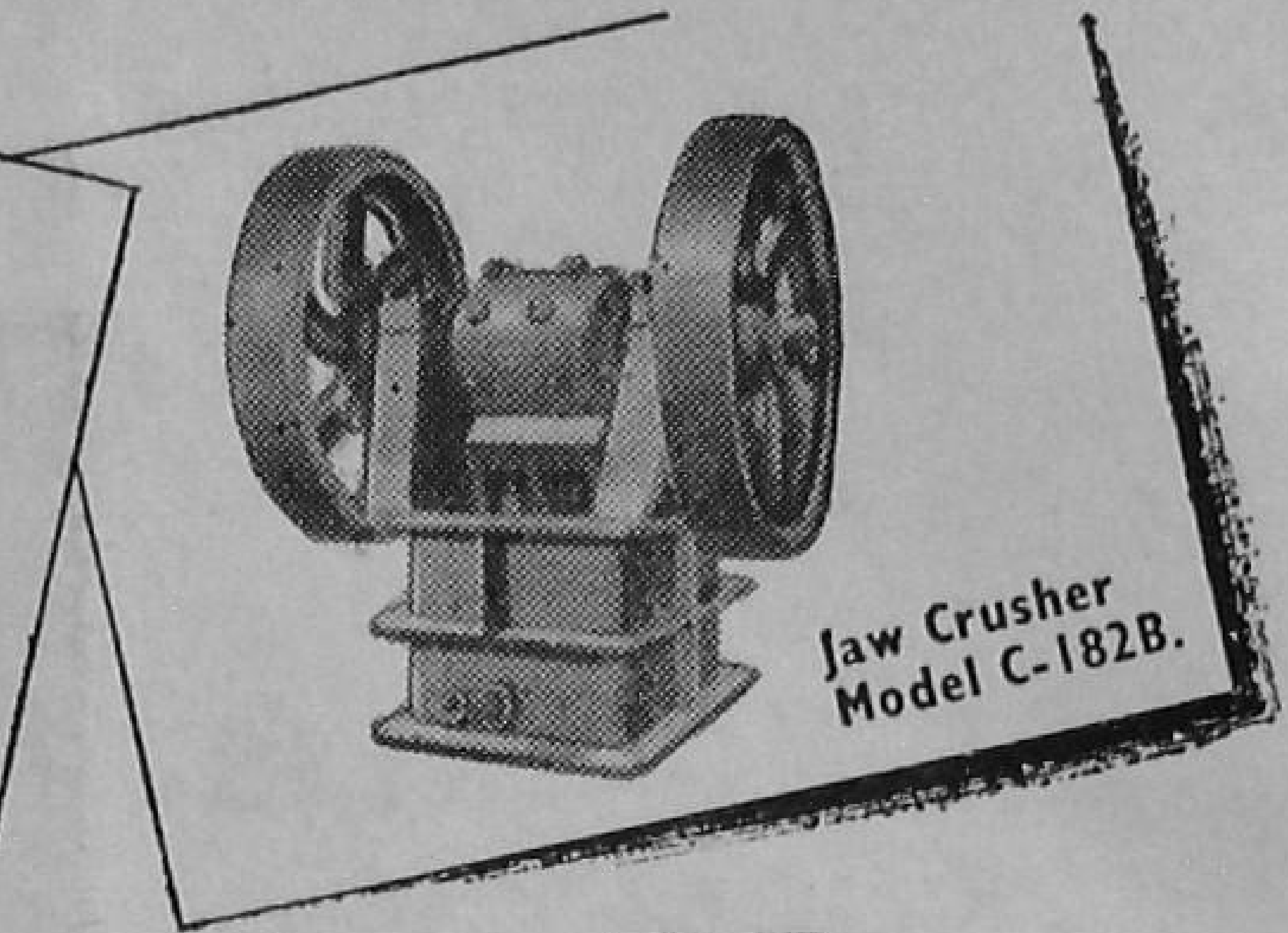

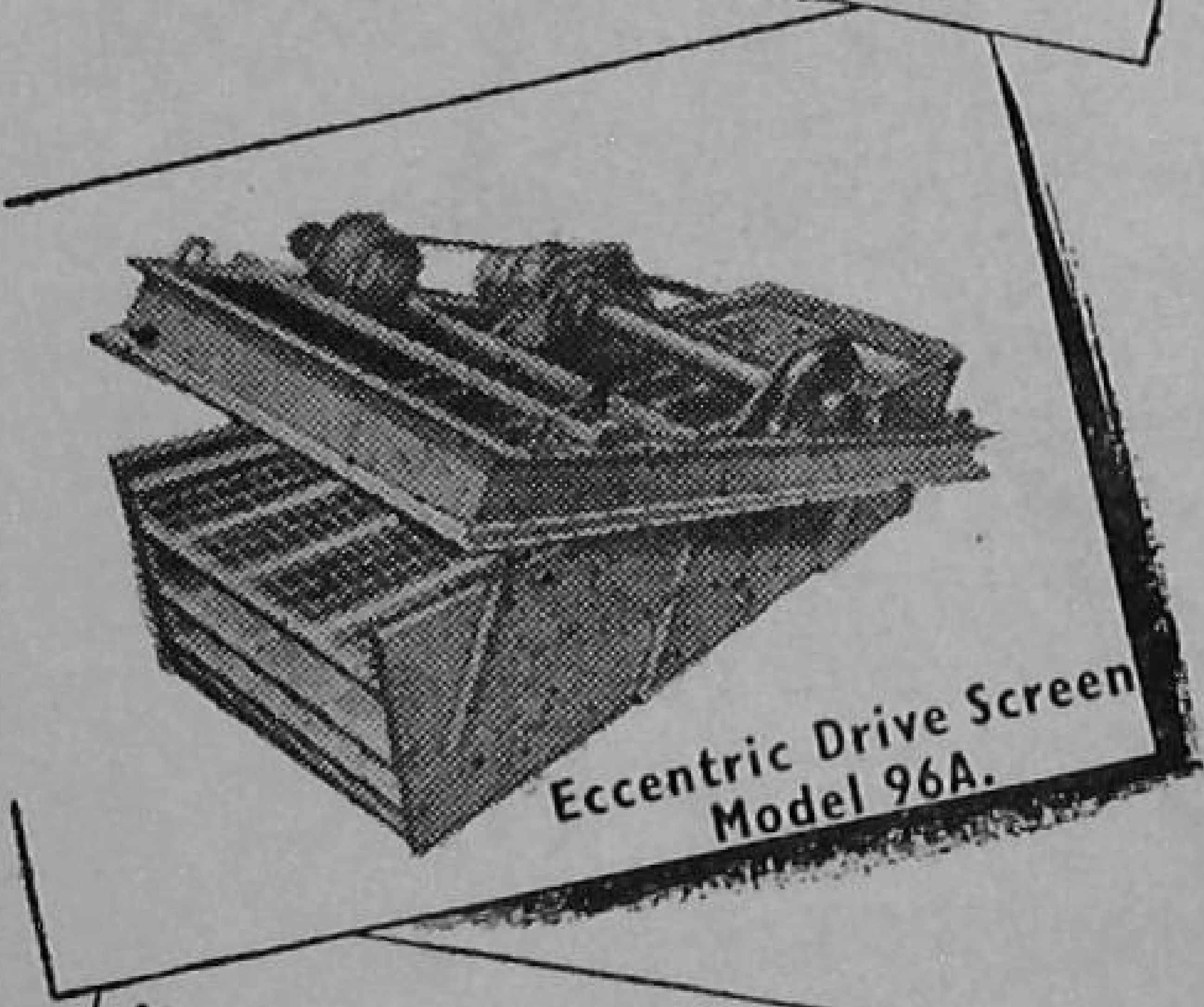

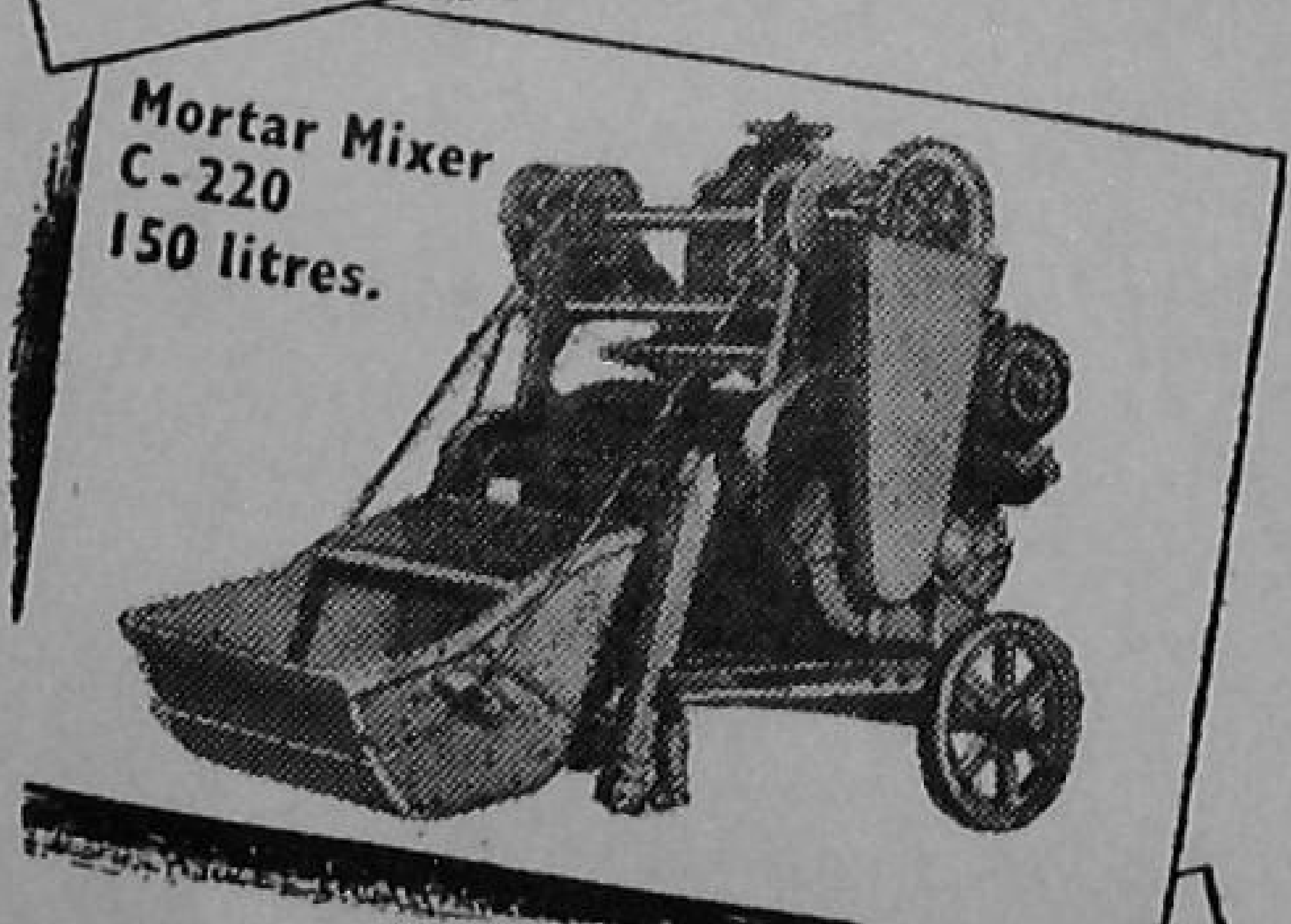

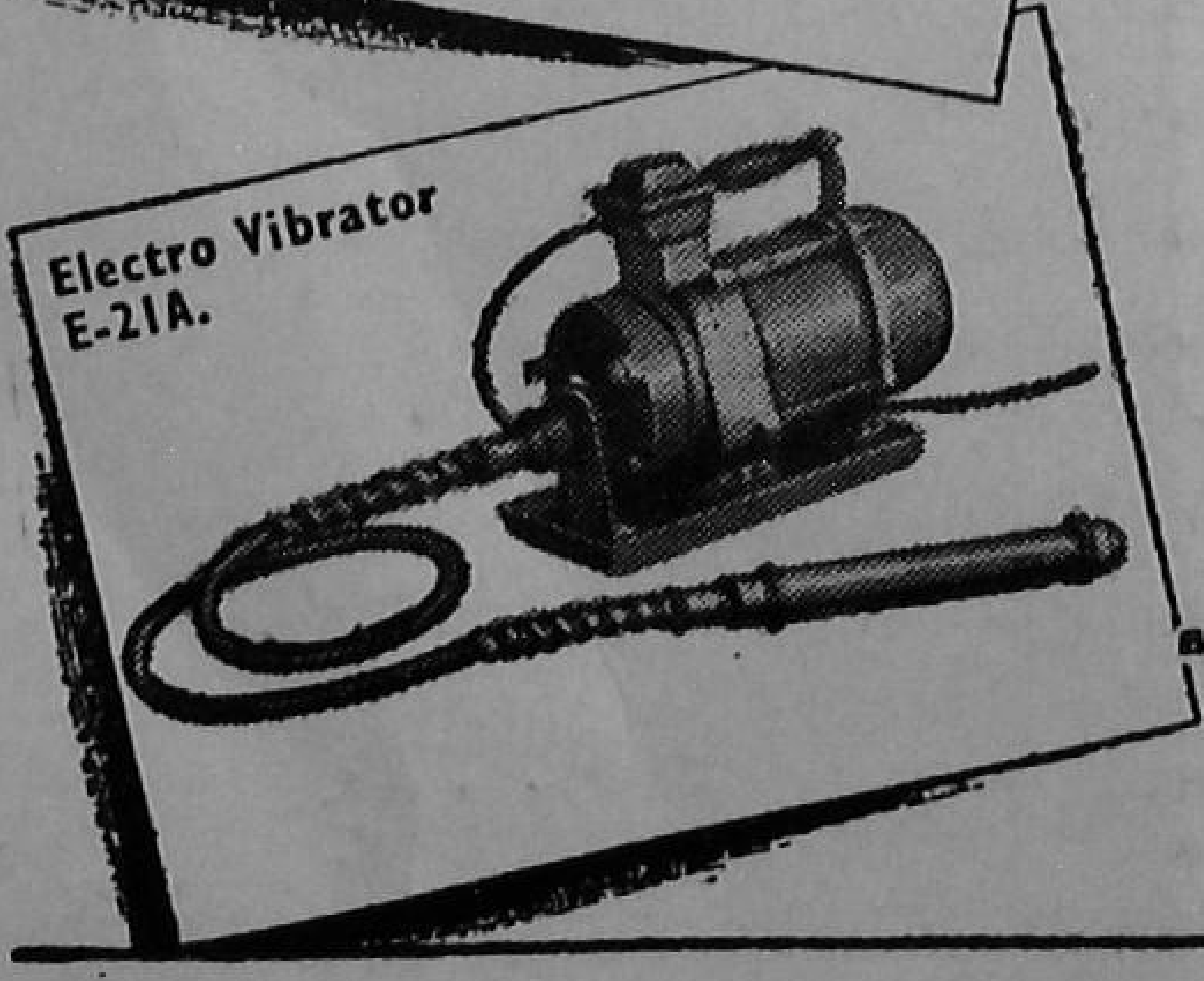

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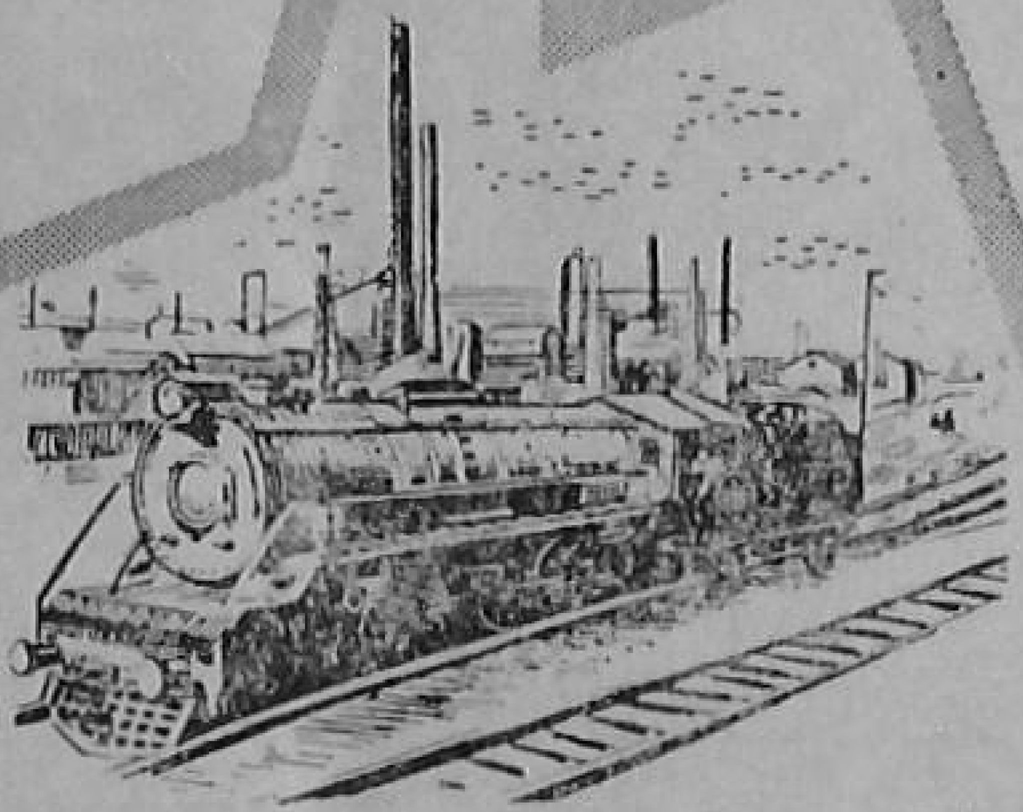

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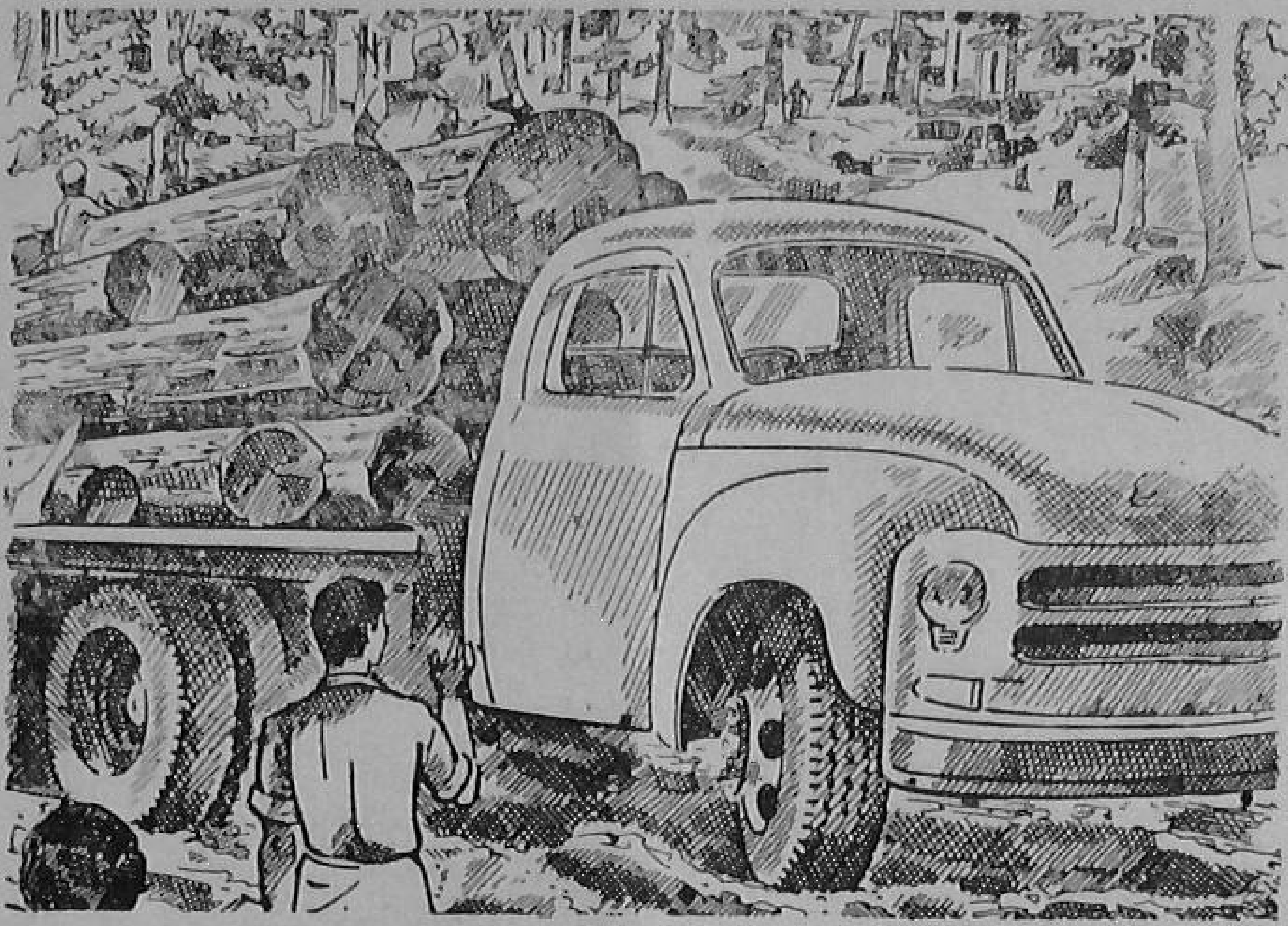

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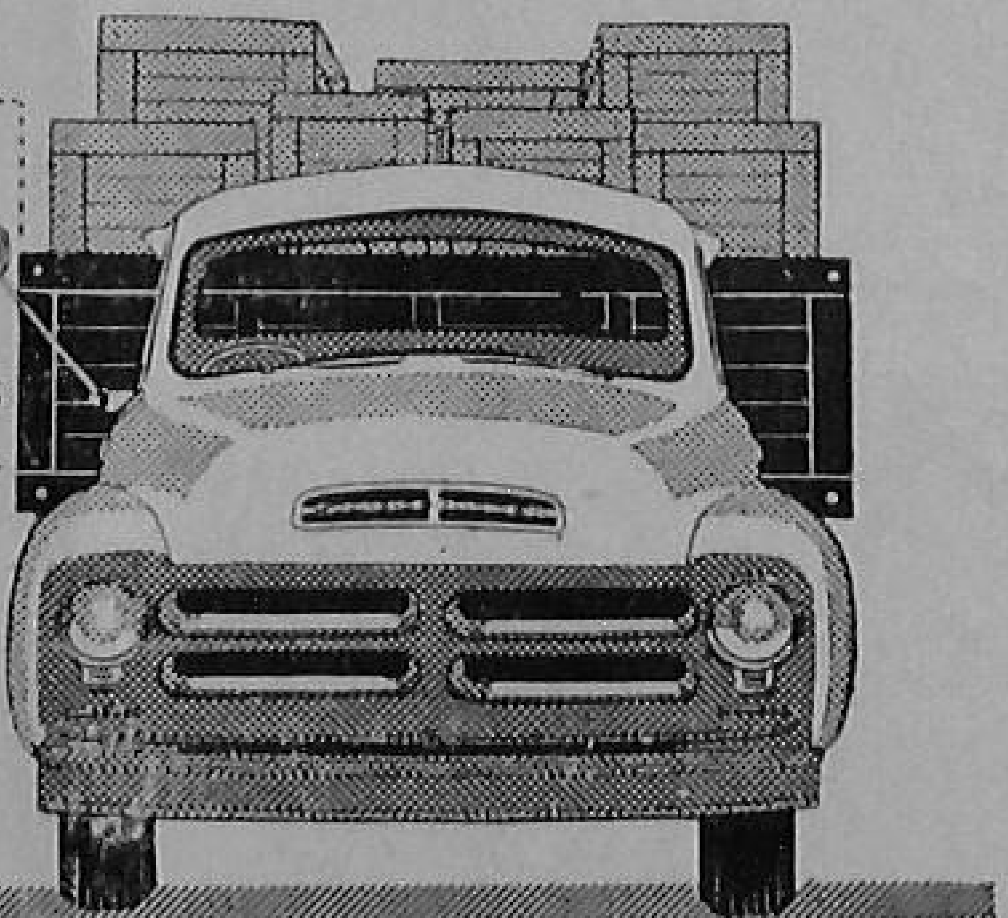

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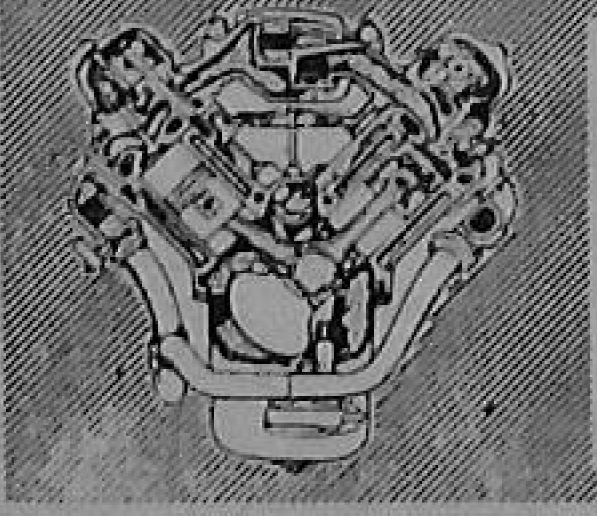

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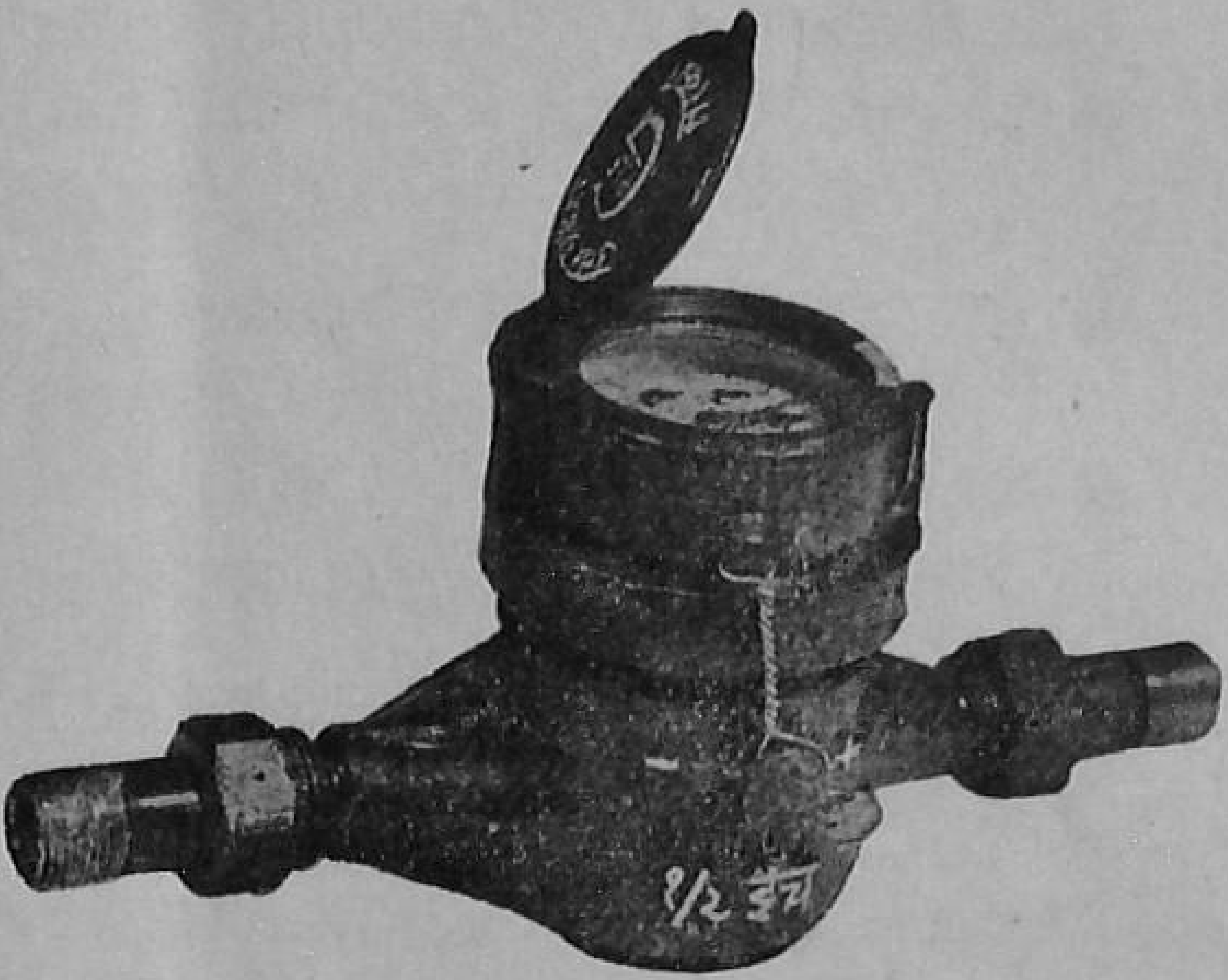

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DELEGATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

The second report of Dr. Paul Appleby, the Ford Foundation Consultant on Public Administration, on problems of Public Administration has aroused greater alround interest than his first report had done. There has also been strong criticism of some of his observations, specially about the unwillingness of the Parliament to delegate authority and attaching undue importance to the functions of the Comptroller and Auditor-General. All this is indicative of the greater interest now being taken in the problems of public administration in the country.

The report is in the form of a "paper", and it cannot be compared to anything like the reports of the Hoover Commission, which recently went into the problems of Public Administration in Dr. Appleby's country. The need for such detailed studies is obvious, if the Public Administration in India is to develop on sound lines and avoid many pitfalls.

Despite the limitations under which Dr. Appleby worked, some of his observations and suggestions have much intrinsic value. He has trod on some toes, but this was inevitable in such an undertaking. It must also be borne in mind that his paper, described by him as a "Re-examination of India's Administrative System" is, again to use his own words, "with special reference to administration of governmental industrial and commercial enterprises". Yet it has a much larger application.

The central theme of Dr. Appleby's paper is the need for delegation of authority, and of the dangers arising from the failure to do so. It is the chief problem of administration in most spheres. Dr. Appleby has tried to show that delegation not only increases the total responsibility of an institution but enlarges the responsibility of those who delegate it.

In the Central Government, and in the State Governments and at local government level one comes across the same tradition, namely of refusal to delegate responsibility on account of distrust of the subordinate authorities, and failure to build up people and institutions who can take decisions and discharge responsibilities.

Nowhere this sorry state of affairs is more discernible than in the field of the Local Covernment in this country. Many of the State Governments seem to act in the belief that people are not fit for democracy.

The cure for the evils of democracy is more democracy, not the imposition of undemocratic rule.

Changing A Chief Minister– Master Plan For Delhi– Town Planning A Very Personal Matter– Road Transport– Corporation For Delhi– Community Projects

Changing a Chief Minister

Mr. K. Hanumanthiyah, who has been forced to resign the Chief Ministership of Mysore by his own Party has described himself the first casualty of the States Reorganisation plan, which makes drastic changes in the map of Mysore State.

Speaking of Bombay' S. K. Patil, the Congress President Mr. U. N. Dhebar had said, a strong personality is often misunderstood. The stronger the personality, the greater the misunderstanding, he had added. There is no denying that Mr. Hanumanthiyah is a man with powerful personality. The outstanding ability and the energy which he brought to bear on improving the administration proved his undoing. His Ministry had come into power in an atmosphere of bitterness against the preceding Cabinet—he had taken over from Mr. K. C. Reddy, transferred to the Union Government—and this bitterness ever haunted him. He managed to survive a vote of no confidence brought by his party over a year ago, only to be tripped now in the confusion of the States Reorganisation. According to a critic of his regime, the Mysore Ministry under the leadership of Mr. Hanumanthiyah had been reduced to a one-man show, the leader being chagred with arrogating to himself the powers of the entire Cabinet.

The Revenue Minister in the Hanumanthiyah Cabinet has succeeded as Chief Minister, showing that the Opposition in the Congress Party, was against Mr. Hanumanthiyah, not so much against his administration.

This is the first instance of the Congress Party in any State changing its leader by the straight-forward method of bringing in a vote of no-confidence. The Congress Working Committee did nothing to discourage it.

The new Chief Minister Mr. Kadildal Manjappa, once a leading Advocate in Shimoga in the State, has considerable political and administrative experience. He was a staunch supporter of the view that the present Mysore State should be retained as it is, but when the Mysore Cabinet and Assembly decided in favour of a bigger Mysore State, he accepted the majority view.

Master Plan For Delhi

The Town Planning Organisation specially created for the purpose in the Union Health Ministry has produced what is called the Interim General Plan for Greater Delhi. The plan's final draft had been seen by the Prime Minister, the Union Health Minister, Delhi's Development Minister and others, and there has been general approval of the plan, say the Press reports.

There is nothing unusual in the Central Government undertaking the town planning of Greater Delhi. Even in a fairly well-developed and well-managed Metropolis, like that of Tokyo, the Japanese Government has recently created a Committee of the Greater Metropolitan Area Redevelopment as an agency of the Prime Minister's office. The planning and development of the Capital is a responsibility which the Central Government cannot divest themselves of.

Latterly, the Union Health Minister and others have expressed much concern over the haphazard growth of Delhi. The Bharat Sewak Samaj has described Delhi as a city of slums. Already slum clearance plans have been formulated and put into effect, and Delhi Development (Provisional) Authority created to put an end to unauthorised constructions, among other things.

A Master Plan for the proper town planning of the Capital was inevitable. The work has been carried out by a team of capable Indian town-planners, and what has emerged is no doubt beautiful and inspiring. The planners seek to preserve the original character of the oriental city, with its gardens and monuments. A notable suggestion is for converting Chandni Chowk into a really oriental bazar, where there will be no vehicular traffic, but side-walk cafes and reflecting pools. Before 1857 a canal used to run through the Chandni Chowk.

The present Master Plan, as Mr. Girjapati Mukerji, Chairman of the T.P.O., points out is only a Town Planners' version of how the

city should develop, its final shape would depend to a large extent on its financial implications, which still remain to be worked out.

Town Planning A Very Personal Matter

Finance will not be the only deciding factor. Much will also depend on the people's enthusiasm. Town planning is a very personal matter. As was found by Britain's Minister of Housing and Local Government. Mr. Duncan Sandys, in an address on March 1 this year to the Town Planning Institute of Britain, recalled going to the County Hall to see the County of London Plan. There was a great crowd around the map. He could not get into the front row so he looked over the heads of two small people in front of him and he overheard what they were saying. They pointed to a spot in Stepney, and the women said to her husband, "See, darling, our house is going to be open space!" When Mr. Sandys was able to get to the map, he found that a proposed new road linking Cromwell Road with Horseferry Road was to go right through his own house in Vincent Square!

Without sacrifices no city can be well planned. In view of the two Five Year Plans the country is becomming planning-minded, and schemes of town-planning too should have greater chances of success now. If slums are to be cleared, evications are inevitable, if streets have to be widened some demolitions cannot be avoided. Judging by the temper of the debates in the Parliament, the M. P.s who participate in these want slums to be cleared without evictions! A difficult task indeed. With the Prime Minister's keen interest in the matter it is, however, obvious there will be no dearth of drive as well as finance to make Delhi the modern capital of the modern India.

Road Transport

The World Bank Mission that was recently in India has expressed concern over the transport position in the country in the context of the ambitious development programmes.

Much of economic prosperity in the United States is attributed to its efficient transport system, specially the road transport. Not satisfied with what has been achieved, the Federal Government there has launched a 13 year 33,000 million dollar highway construction programme that will add a network of 41,000 super-highways.

Kanpur Civic Administration

A Special Feature on Kanpur Civic Administration appears on pages 75 to 84 in this issue.

The decision of the Union Government to take over the responsibility for maintaining national highways (39 at present) under the National Highways Bill, which passed the two Houses of Parliament in August is, therefore most welcome. The number of National Highways will grow inevitably. A system of toll roads might also come into being.

The progress of road development has been slow indeed. It is pointed out that roads built even at the end of the Second Five Year Plan will equal only two-thirds of those recommended under the modest Nagpur Plan, drawn up in 1943, at a time when the present economic development of the country was not foreseen.

Not less has been the neglect of road transport industry. Road transport nationalisation in the States has led to certain achievements, but it has also succeeded in strangulating private road transport industry. The gurantee of five years of no-nationalisation of goods transport has not been very encouraging. It has been estimated that whereas general production increased 35.3 percent between 1951 and 1953, the registration of motor vehicles increased by only 4.1 percent. The annual growth in the number of motor vehicles since the start of the First Five Year Plan has been less than half during the 15 preceding years and one-fifth of that for the period 1920-36. These are desimal figures. The Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill which has gone to a joint committee of the two Houses of Parliament represents awareness of this state of affairs to some extent.

Corporation For Delhi

Delhi at last is to have a Municipal Corporation. This is a consolation for the loss of the status of Statehood from Delhi Province, as well as the reward of years of strenuous work. Too many local bodies and too many ad hoc authorities have not been conductive to efficiency and integrated growth of the urban area in and around the Capital. Indications are that New Delhi, the Cantonments and some

other parts of the urban areas may be kept out of the Corporation's authority, atleast for sometime. This decision is already the subject of some controversy in the Capital.

That Delhi should have a Municipal Corporation instead of multiple authorities, is the unanimous view of all those concerned. A long way will have to be travelled before the above objective is achieved, despite the Home Minister's announcement on the subject in the Lok Sabha this month.

Besides the conflicting claims of the ad hoc authorities and the existing local bodies, the position in regard to the Centre's responsibility for the development of Capital still remains to be clarified.

Control on Advertisements

There was a useful debate in the Madras Council on the need for control of advertisements in the cities. Posters of all sizes, containing all sorts of matter disfigure public as well as private property in all the cities. The Vice-Chancellor of Madras University, Dr. Mudaliar, deprecating the misuse of the walls facing roads, said that the practice was unknown west of the Suez. Control on advertisements and hoardings is not unknown in the U. K. and other countries anxious to preserve the beauty of their towns and to prevent their being made ugly. The right to place posters of any size, containing any kind of matter, on anyone's property, needs to be curbed soon.

The Madras Government, the Council debate showed, have already taken intitiative in the matter, and a Government Bill on the subject is under negotiation with the Central Government. The matter concerns all the cities in all the States, and a uniform legislation would be welcome. The Central Council of Local Self-Government Ministers can help in ensuring this uniformity.

Community Projects

The creation of a Ministry of Community Development represents a landmark in the plans for the development of the vast rural areas and people inhabiting them. The villages contain a majority of India's population. Rapid transformation of the village economy has taken place in the First Five Year Plan period, and still bigger strides are to be taken in the Second Plan period.

To consolidate the revolution that led to the independance of the country it was but natural that attention should have been paid to moulding the lives and thoughts of the peasantry, and to raise their standard of living. The community development plans have been found suited to the genius of the people of this land, and at the end of the Second Five Year Plan, it is hoped, the peasantry would have changed beyond recognition.

The proposal to provide strong local government at the base, and to make these the instruments of community development in future has shown the wide-awake manner in which the community development is being planned step by step to Community Projects Administration, which now become a Ministry.

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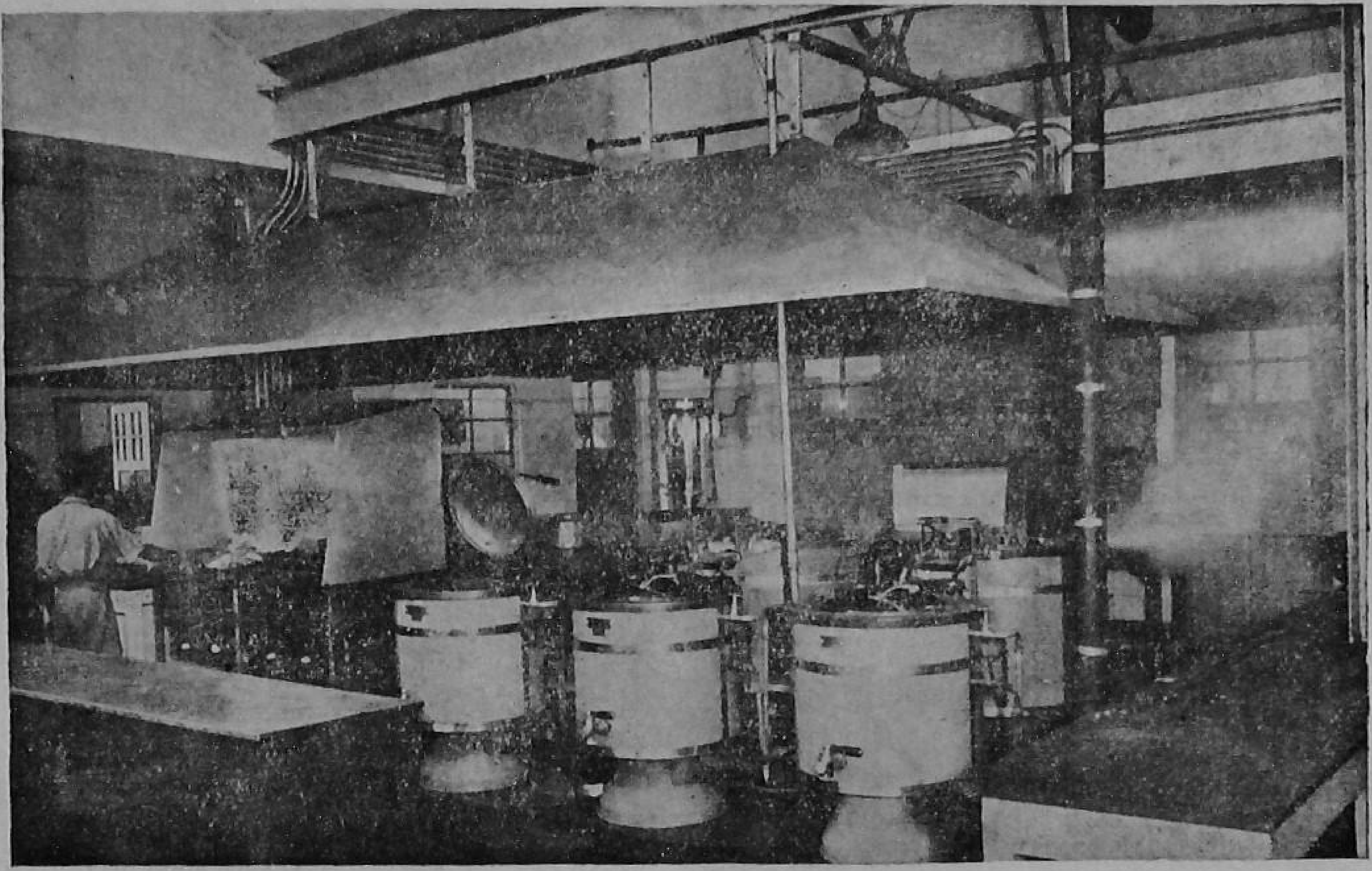

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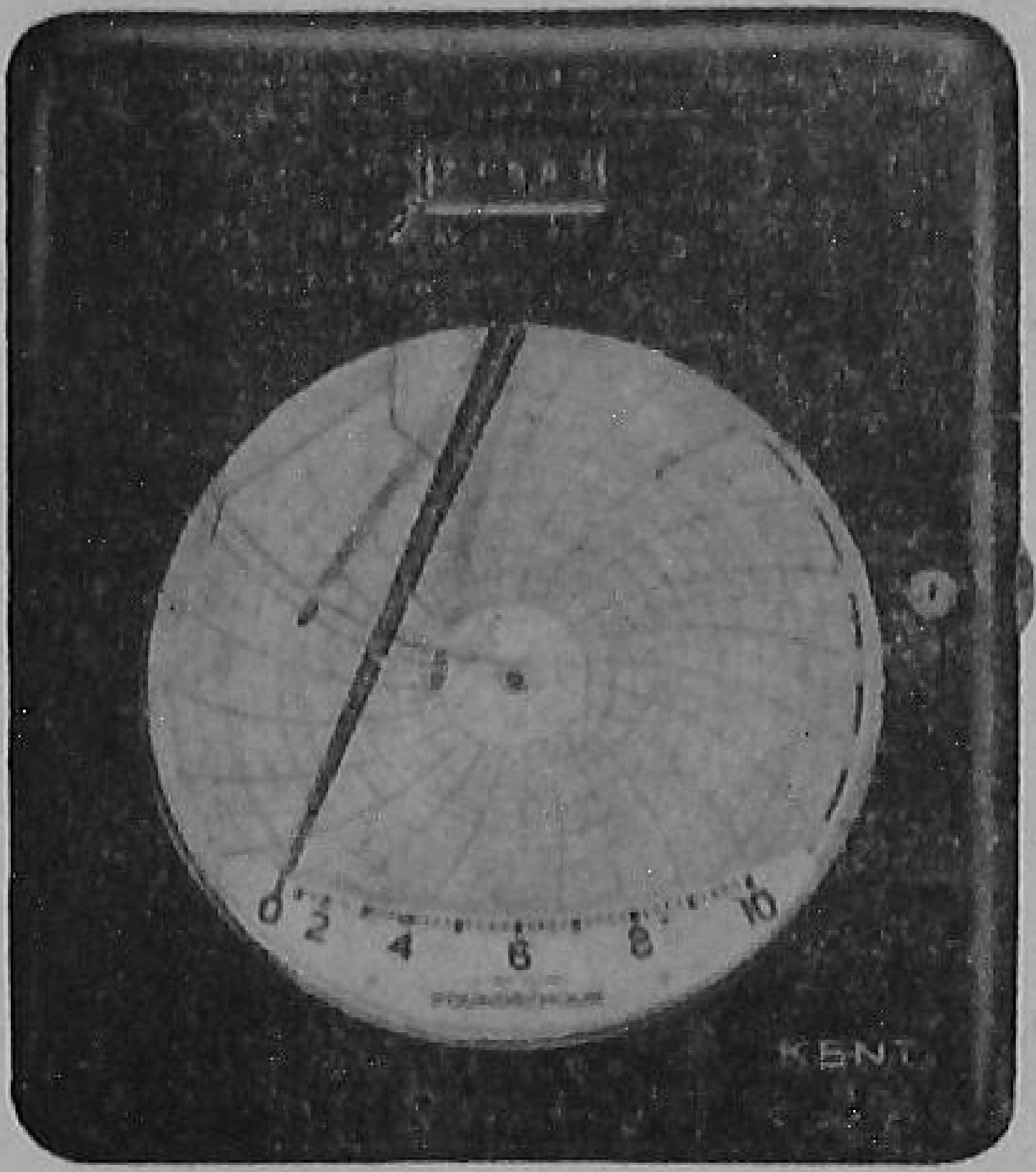

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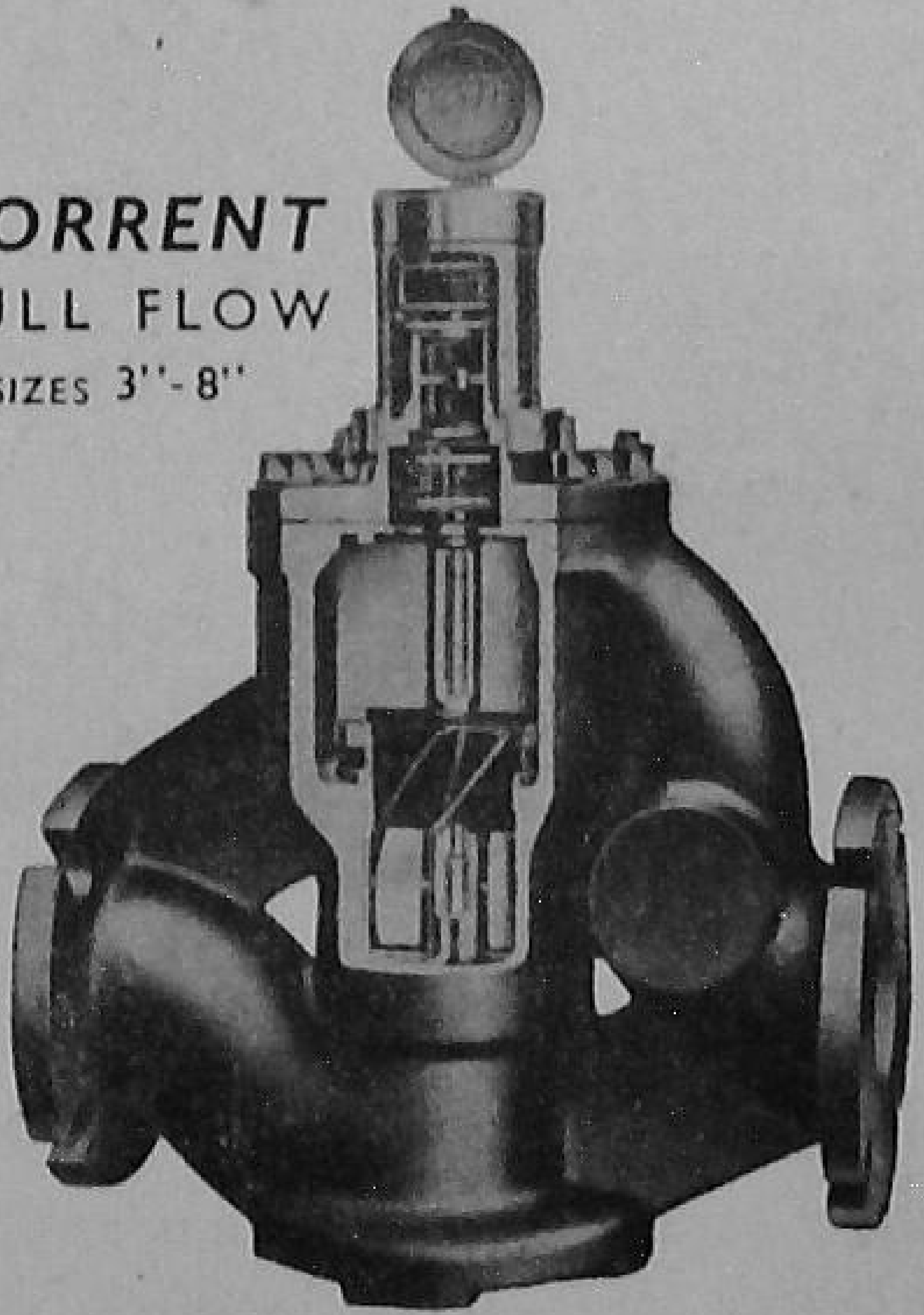

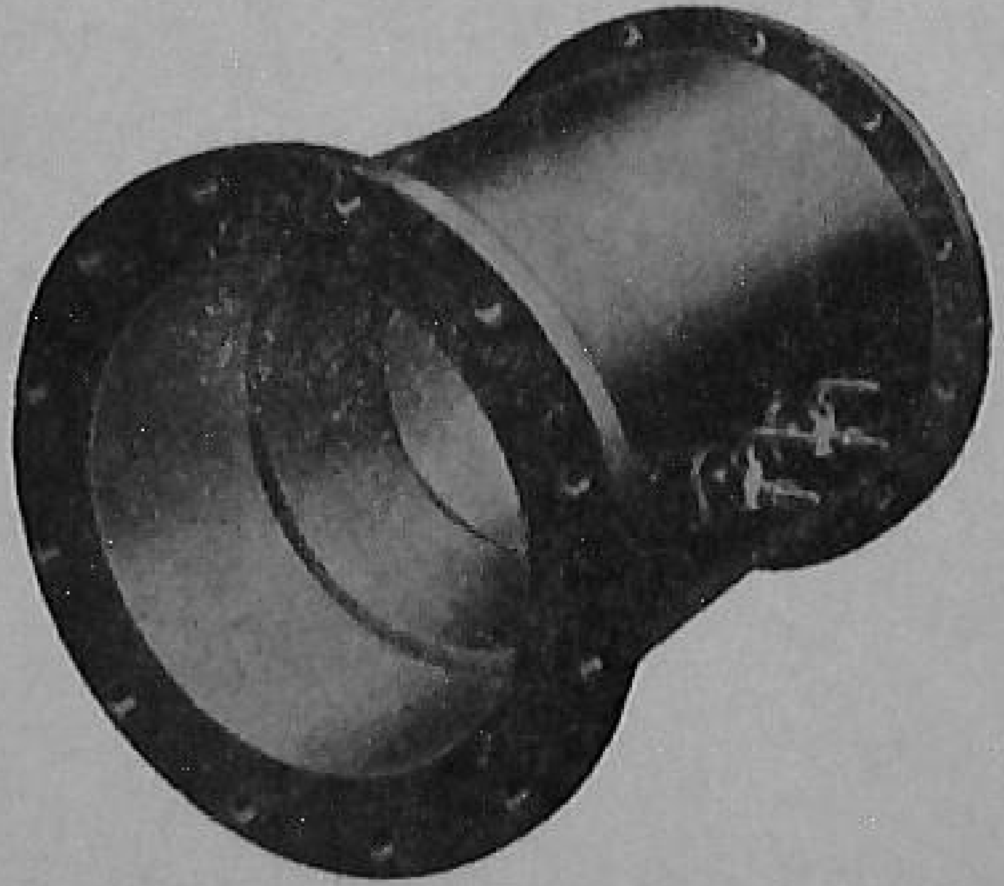

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The Metropolitan Area And Its Administration-II

By Sri Gurumukh Nihal Singh,
Chief Minister, Delhi State.

This study (please see the article in the August issue of the *Civic Affairs*—Editor) of the systems of government prevailing in great cities and metropolitan areas was undertaken with a specific purpose, that is, to seek guidance in devising a constitution for the Metropolitan Area of Delhi.

Delhi is one of the most ancient cities of the world—perhaps not less old than the Eeternal city of Rome. It was originally known as Indraprastha and was the capital of Pandavas. In the begining of the 11th century it became the capital of a Rajput Tomar Kingdom and was called for the first time Dilli, and since then, despite the many vicissitudes through which it has passed it has continued to be known by the name of Dilli or Dehli. It is said to have been built nearly 15 times.

Delhi has been the seat of Government of a number of kingly dynasties, both Hindu and Muslim. It was the Capital of Moghals, except for a short period when the Capital was shifted to Agra during the reigns of Akbar and Jahangir. After the rising of 1857, Delhi was joined to the Punjab and became the headquarters of its eastern-most Division, consisting of seven districts of Simla, Ambala, Hissar, Karnal, Rohtak, Gurgaon and Delhi.

Delhi Becomes Capital Again

In 1912, out of the Delhi Division an enclave was carved out to house the Capital of the country, which was shifted from Calcutta, and it became a Chief Commissioner's Province. Two Tehsils of Delhi District—the whole of Sonepat and 280 sqr. miles of Ballabhgarh Tehsil—were detached and joined on to the Rohtak and Gurgaon districts respectively, and the Tehsil of Delhi and the territory under the jurisdiction of Mehrauli Police Station were combined to form the Province of Delhi, through a Proclamation of September 17, 1912. It covered an area of 528 sqr. miles. As it was felt necessary to enlarge the area of the Capital, by a Proclamation of February 22, 1915, a small area of 45 sqr. miles comprising some 65 villages and including the township of Shahadra under the jurisdiction of the Shahdara Police Station was acquired from the U.P. There has been no change in the territory of Delhi and its area now stands at 578 sqr. miles.

It would thus be seen that the Province of Delhi was created specially to house the country's Capital when it was felt necessary to shift it from Calcutta and only that much territory was included as would meet the developmental needs of the Metropolis. It was for that reason that a fairly large part of the old district of Delhi was joined to the Punjab and a small portion of the U. P.— in spite of its being on the opposite bank of the river Jamuna—was added to the new Province of Delhi. Since 1912 Delhi has maintained its character as the Metropolis of India and its system of government has been designed bearing this character in view. It was for this reason that when the Indian Parliament reluctantly yielded to the pressure and transformed it into a Part "C" State in 1952, a differentiation was made between it and the other Part "C" States, and Delhi was denied certain powers given to other Part "C" States.

During the last decade certain important developments have taken place affecting the life in India's Metropolis. India achieved freedom in 1947 and since then Delhi has become a great international centre, attracting to it many foreign missions and other concerns. The attainment of freedom was accompanied by partition of the country which brought in its wake an unprecedented influx of refugees. To provide for the needs of this sudden and huge influx, it became necessary to accelerate the pace of industrialisation in the Metropolitan Area.

There has thus been a rapid increase in the population of the Metropolis and the consequent need for the extension of its boundaries. It is believed that in 1915 Delhi's population was in the neighbourhood of 5 laks. In 1931 it rose to 6,36,246 and in 1941 to 9,17,939, but in 1951 it jumped to 17,44,072. It is now estimated at more than 20 laks.

Predominantly Urban

Only some 10 percent of the population of Delhi depends upon agriculture ; the rest depending on commerce, trade, industry, service, professions and other urban occupations. The rural population in 304 villages of Delhi State is in the neighbourhood of three laks and is more or less stationary, but the urban population is increasing at a rapid rate—nearly 80,000 to a lak every year, and it will not be surrising if in the course of the next generation the population of the Metropolitan Area crosses the five million mark.

The need for extending the area of Metropolitan Delhi has therefore been universally felt. In this connection it is necessary to bear in mind three important considerations :— 1. This extension should not be mixed up with the general question of the reorganisation of States on linguistic and cultural basis. The expansion is being suggested here purely from the point of view of the developmental needs of the Capital with its rapidly increasing population; 2. In making the extension the old historic ties should not be ignored. If it is considered necessary to add more territory to the Metropolitan Area, it should be from the ceded parts of the old District of Delhi, that is from the Tehsils of Sonepat and Ballabhgarh ; 3. Until more adequate protection from floods is secured on a permanent basis, and until atleast two more bridges are built over the Jamuna, it would not be practicable to make large extensions on the Shahdara side. Congestion of traffic is already very great on the existing Jamuna bridge and it will not be possible for it to cater for the needs of a much larger population across the river.

Special Responsibilities

In devising a scheme for the future government of Metropolitan Delhi there are two considerations of permanent importance which have to be kept constantly in view. Firstly, the privilege of housing the National Capital, with all its advantages of greater prosperity, witnessing colorful scenes, functions and festivities, seeing, meeting and listening to notable personalities and high dignitaries and basking in the sunshine of world publicity, casts at the same time heavy responsibilities both on the citizens of the Metropolis and the Central Government of the country. The Government of India, however much some of us may wish, cannot divest itself of the special responsibility of securing protection to foreign missions and visitors and of seeing that high standards—atleast minimum standards—of sanitation, cleanliness, health, roads, electric and water supply, transport, education and other services and amenities and of general civic administration are maintained in the Metropolis. The people have to bear the responsibilities of playing host to the distinguished citizens and thus forego some of their rights, such as the direct control over police, courts, etc. and to submit to somewhat greater supervision and control over their work of local self-government and general administration.

An Urban Centre

Secondly, the Metropolitan Area is to be viewed primarily as an urban centre. It is true that as distinguished from the city, the Metropolitan Area includes a number of scattered rural areas, but such areas are included chiefly to provide scope for the extension and development of the City and to provide additional facilities and amenities to the urban population. The rural and urban people will have their elected bodies and will be duly represented on the larger metropolitan bodies. The problems of a Metropolitan Area are mostly administrative and deliberative, that is, of policy making and policy executing, as in the case of a great city, and not largely legislative, as in the case of a State. It is for this reason that the Metropolitan representative body—be it called the Council or Assembly—is not

given the power of making laws, as distinguished from the power of making bylaws, regulations, ordinances and rules required for giving effect to its policy decisions.

It is true that a number of laws are always in force in a Metropolitan Area as in other parts of the country and they do require amendments and replacements from time to time. Altogether new legislation is also needed. Such laws can be adopted from other States in Delhi as in the past, and the Parliament can also enact new laws for the Metropolitan Delhi.

Laws Advisory Committee

For this purpose I propose that the Metropolitan Council should be required, by the statute creating it, to appoint a Special Standing Committee consisting of 10 Councillors and 5 outside experts besides the Members of Parliament from Delhi, to recommend to the Government of India what laws from other States should be applicable to Delhi and to prepare "draft bills", for consideration of Parliament. The Laws Advisory Committee will, besides recommending legislation, will also advise in legal matters.

At present Delhi is represented by four members in the Lok Sabha and one member in the Rajya Sabha, but the Delimitation Commission has recommended that the representation in the Lok Sabha should be reduced to 3 members. But as the Government of India have decided to make Delhi a Centrally administered territory, when there will be no legislature for Delhi and laws for it will be made by the Parliament, it would be desirable to increase its representation in Parliament instead of reducing it.

I, therefore, suggest that Delhi's seats in the Lok Sabha be increased to five and in the Rajya Sabha to two, and further that the members of the Rajya Sabha should be elected by the Metropolitan representative body, that is, the Metropolitan Council.

Minister For Delhi Affairs

An integral part of these proposals is the appointment of a Deputy Minister or Minister incharge of Delhi Affairs, in the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, who will direct and control the administration of those subjects which will be outside the scope of the Government of Metropolitan Delhi as such, for example, police and courts, and who will exercise general supervision and control over the administration of Metropolitan Delhi as a whole—apart from the specific powers exercised by the Ministries concerned.

Two-Tier System

It has been argued in Part I of this study (the article which appeared in the August issue the *Civic Affairs*) and, I believe, established fully that the most suitable form of Government for a Metropolitan Area is one consisting of two sets of authorities, on the two tier system ; one set dealing with purely local matters in each area, and the other, a single, compendious Metropolitan Authority, dealing with all the large-scale functions—there being no *ad hoc* authorities for performing individual or specific functions or services.

In Delhi State there exist at present 12 local bodies, five statutory bodies, and the State Government divided into two parts— the one for the administration of the "Reserved" subjects and the other incharge of the remaining or "Transferred" subjects. The 12 local bodies are : Delhi Municipal Committee, New Delhi Municipal Committee, South Delhi Municipal Committee, West Delhi Municipal Committee ; Notified Area Committees of Civil Lines, Mehrauli, Najafgarh, Narela and Fort ; Delhi Cantonment Board and Delhi District Board. The five statutory bodies are : Delhi Joint Water and Sewage Board, Delhi Road Transport Authority, Delhi State Electricity Board, Delhi Improvement Trust and Delhi Development (Provisional) Authority. Ultimately the last two authorities are expected to become one, look-

ing after both improvement and Development work in the Metropolitan Area.

I do not think it is necessary to disturb the existing local bodies, except that where there are nominated bodies, they should become, if not wholly at least predominantly, elected and that it might be advisable to divide Delhi Municipality as it has grown too unwieldly as a mere local body—its population having risen to more than a million.

It might also be necessary to revise the functions and powers of these local bodies.

I believe it will be necessary to add further to the number of local bodies if the boundaries of the Metropolitan Delhi are extended in the manner suggested above. The number of local bodies may go up from 12 to 16 or 18, depending on the extent of the territory which is added to the Metropolis.

On the other hand, it would be necessary to end the separate and autonomous existence of statutory bodies and to bring them under the purview of a single, compendious, Metropolitan Authority. **It is, therefore, suggested that the ad hoc authorities mentioned above be transformed into Standing Committees or Commissions of the Metropolitan Council and their constitution modified on the lines of similar authorities in other Metropolitan Areas.** It would be necessary to give representation to various interests concerned, including experts and techinical men, who may be drawn from outside the Metropolitan Council, bearing in mind that they will be incharge, of services that are in the nature of Commercial undertakings but are at the same time public utility services.

Metropolitan Council

The chief organ of the Metropolitan Authority in almost all cases is a representative Council. This Council should be composed on the federal principle, and that some 15 to 30 percent of its members should be indirectly elected by the local bodies and the remaining elected directly on popular franchise roughly on the basis of one representative for every 30,000 people.

Taking into account only the existing local bodies and the present population and territory of the Metorpolitan Area. **I suggest that the Metropolitan Council for Delhi may consist of 86 members in all,** of whom 66 should be directly elected—some from double-member constituencies to give representation to Scheduled Castes for whom six seats may be reserved, and the remaining 54 from single-member constituencies—and the remaining 20 by the local bodies as follows:- 6 members by the Delhi Municipal Committee, 2 each by the New Delhi Municipal Committee, the Shahdara Municipal Committee, and Delhi District Board, and 1 each by the remaining 8 local bodies.

It is proposed that the term of the Delhi Metropolitan Council should be five years.

There has been some controversy with regard to the name which should be given to the representative body for the Metropolitan Authority in Delhi. In this country ordinarily the term Assembly or Sabha is used for State Legislative body, which is popularly elected, and even abroad, except in the case of Tokyo, which is both a Province and a Metropolitan Area; the word "Council" is employed for the representative body of the great city or Metropolitan Area, because its important functions are deliberative and administrative, and not legislative.

It is, therefore, proposed to call the Metropolitan representative body in Delhi "Metropolitan Council."

Executive Authority

The Metropolitan Council will function both as a whole and through Standing Committees and other Committees.

It is proposed that the Executive Authority in Metropolitan Delhi be vested in a Chairman (Mayor) and two Vice-Chairmen, (Deputy Mayors), elected by the Metropolitan Council—one of the three being among those elected by the local bodies. Departments of administration should be

divided among these three. It might be advisable to elect the Chairman (Mayor) first and to elect the Vice-Chairmen (Deputy Mayors) afterwards on his recommendation.

In our country choice has already been made between the two types of democratic government—in favour of parliamentary system as against presidential system. It is our firm conviction that people are not good judges of individual merit and efficiency, particularly in the technical and professional sphere, and, therefore, the selection of executive heads, administrators and judges through popular election is not desirable. For these and other reasons, it is not advisable to entrust the executive power in Metropolitan Delhi to a popularly directly elected executive— either single or collegiate.

Mayors & Deputy Mayors

In most countries the Chairman or the Executive head of a Great City or metropolitan area is called the Mayor and the Vice-Chairmen the Deputy Mayors. In Tokyo there is a directly elected executive head, who is called the Governor and there are also two Deputy Governors. In this country only heads of States are called Governors and they are constitutional or nominal heads, and they are not elected either directly or indirectly. In these circumstances it will not be desirable to name the head of the Metropolitan Council and Administration as the Governor. There will be Chairmen of Standing and other Committees, and Presidents or Chairmen of local bodies within the Metropolitan Area. To avoid confusion it would be best give the designations of Mayor and Deputy Mayors to the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the Metropolitan Council.

It is suggested that the Mayor and the two Deputy Mayors be paid personal and car allowances and the Mayor be paid, in addition, a sumptuary or entertainment allowance.

The work of administration under the Metropolitan Authority will be divided into departments and a Standing Committee will supervise the work of each department, which will be under the direct charge of either the Mayor or one of the Deputy Mayors, who will nominate with the consent of the Mayor one of the members of the Standing Committee, provided he is a Councillor, its Chairman.

Executive Committee

The Chairmen of the Standing Committees, including that of the Law Advisory Standing Committee, referred to above, together with the Mayor and the Deputy Mayors will constitute the Executive Committee which will supervise and control the whole administration of the Metropolitan Area— subject to the general control of the Metropolitan Council and the ultimate control of the Parliament. The Executive Committee will also work as Finance and the General Purposes Committee.

The Chairman of the Executive Committee will be the Mayor and its Secretary will be the head of the Metropolitan Secretariat, who may be designated Secretary-General as in Rome. Each department will have its own service-head who may be designated as its Secretary and will also act as Secretary of the particular Standing Committee.

Main Functions

The main functions which may be entrusted to the Metropolitan Council in Delhi, bearing in mind the needs of the Metropolitan Area of Delhi, and the powers and functions of such Councils in other parts of the world, may be listed as follows:— 1. Pre-University education ; 2. Public Health and Sanitation; 3. Main drainage and sewage disposal ; 4. Fire-fighting and protection; 5. Housing; 6. Main highways and bridges; 7. Water; 8. Electricity; 9. Transport; 10. Social Welfare, Harijan uplift, refugee relief and rehabilitation ; 11. Agriculture, Rural Developement, Industry, Commerce and Foresting ; 12. Labour Administration.

Besides the 12 departments listed above, it will be necessary to have other departments or bureaus without which the Metropolitan Council cannot function at all. Among the most important is the Finance Department, which will be in charge of taxes and other revenues, receipts and disbursements and budget, etc.

Another department which is also of basic importance is that dealing with recruitment of permanent staff and appointment of various types of employees required for the Metropolitan Administration.

Another department that exists these days in great cities and metropolitan areas is that of Public Relations which acts as a liason office between the public and the administration.

Metropolitan Service

It is proposed that there should be a regular Metropolitan Administrative Service, including the personnel required by the local bodies within the Metropolitan Area. It should be divided into the usual four grades Class I posts may be filled either by recruitment through the Union Public Service Commission or through obtaining on deputation officers for a period of three to five years from the Government of India and State Governments or by promotion from senior Class II officers. Class II and III personnel should be recruited through a Metropolitan Service Commission consisting of five members appointed by the Government of India. Class IV employees should be recruited by the Secretary-General under the supervision of the Executive Committee which will be the appointing authority.

Powers and Functions of Local Boards

The powers and functions of the local bodies or minor local authorities in the Metropolitan Area may be on similar lines as in the case of Metropolitan London, which are thus summarised by Professor W. A. Robson: "The main functions of the Borough Councils are the cleansing, lighting, paving and improvement of streets; the provision of public libraries and museums; public baths, swimming pools, gymnasia and wash-houses; burial grounds, crematoria, and mortuaries; the registration of births and deaths and marriages; sanitary supervision of factories and shops; food and drugs inspection; slum clearance and the provision of housing (concurrent powers with London County Council); small parks and public gardens (major parks, etc. as part of town planning are under London County Council); local drainage; the regulation of offensive trades and various other matters."

There is a Metropolitan Boroughs Standing Joint Committee in London which negotiates with Government departments and the London County Council, and acts as a powerful defence organ for the Metropolitan boroughs. There is also a common committee formed to promote improved organisation and methods (O. & M.) in the work of the Borough Councils.

Co-ordinating Agency

In the case of Delhi it is suggested that the members of the Metropolitan Council elected by the local bodies should form a committee under the chairmanship of one of the Deputy Mayors who should work as a co-ordinating agency between the Metropolitan Council and the minor local authorities. It may also serve as an advisory committee to advise the local authorities on methods of securing maximum efficiency in their work of administration.

Primary, and to a certain extent secondary and social, education is provided by the minor local authorities in Delhi. It is a point for consideration as to whether after the introduction of the two-tier system the existing arrangement should continue or the whole of the pre-University education should come under the Metropolitan Council.

Law and Order Function

In the list functions given above, which should be assigned to the Metropolitan Council, have not been included such services as Police, Judiciary, Magistracy and Jails—which are grouped under "law and order", and which in important Capitals, such as London, Paris and Washington, are administered directly by the Centre. It is suggested that in Delhi too they may be brought under the direct control of the Government of India. A Minister or Deputy Minister in the Home Ministry of Government of India should be in direct charge of the four subjects mentioned above, subject to the general supervision and control of the High Court in case of judiciary.

It would be desirable if the Inspector General of Police and the Deputy Commissioner are invited to the meetings of the Metropolitan Council and are asked to take part in proceedings but without a right of vote. Whenever necessary they may also be invited to attend a meeting of the Executive or any other Committee of the Council. In Bombay the Police Commissioner is an ex-officio member of the Corporation.

It would be of considerable help if the Mayor, the two Deputy Mayors, the Inspector-General of Police and the Deputy Commissioner meet under the chairmanship of the Minister of Delhi Affairs at regulated intervals, and whenever necessary, to review the work of Metropolitan Administration as a whole, with a view to making the administration efficient and smooth.

Finance

It is presumed that all the sources of income at present available to the State Government, including grants, loans and other financial help from the Government of India, will also be available to the Metropolitan Council. It may be necessary to make certain adjustments with the local bodies in financial matters and for this a committee of financial experts may be appointed.

The 12 Standing Committees may be constituted on the same lines as in Bombay, drawing where necessary on the experience of London, Rome and Tokyo. Advantage should be taken to the maximum extent possible of talent and experience available outside the Council to make the Committees as efficient and useful as possible.

Central Control

The control exercised by the Central Government over the administration of a Great City or Metropolitan Area is usually of three kind—legislative, judicial and administrative. It is, however, the administrative control which is continuous and comprehensive, and has been growing in recent times in all countries and has now reached large proportions. The main reason for the substantial increase in central control is the growing dependence of local authority for financial help on the Central Government. Moreover the Central Ministries in charge of such services as education, health, housing, transport, internal security, etc. feel it incumbent on them to see that atleast certain minimum standards of efficiency are achieved throughout the country, and the dependence of the local authority on grants-in-aid gives the central ministries the opportunity to exercise the necessary control. (*Concluded*)

Dr. Sushila Nayar's Proposals

Dr. Sushila Nayar, Speaker of the Delhi Vidhan Sabha, has also suggested to the Union Home Minister that a Metropolitan Council of 60 to 75 members for Delhi should be set up.

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Corporation For Delhi

During the debate on the motion for consideration of the Constitution (Ninth) Amendment Bill for giving effect to the States Reorganisation Scheme, the Union Home Minister, Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant, announced in the Lok Sabha on September 5, that Delhi, which would cease to be a State and will become a centrally administrated territory, would have a Corporation on the lines of the Bombay Corporation elected on adult suffrage. Among the subjects to be allotted to the Corporation will be Electricity, Sullage, Transport, etc.

He hoped that the Corporation would have jurisdiction in most of the areas, which form part of Delhi and New Delhi, The cantonment, the diplomatic colony and other areas, which were essentially of governmental character, may for some time, say, for five years or so, have their Administrative Commissioner to look after their affairs. The matter could be reviewed after five years.

The Corporation might have about 80 members. "I cannot say very definitely. Infact what I am saving is all tentative." Pandit Pant added.

The Corporation, along with some other bodies, if necessary, would also serve as the electorate for returning members to the Rajya Sabha.

The Parliament would have the power to legislate for Delhi but the Minister-in-charge would be assisted in the matter of legislation to be placed before the Parliament, budget to be framed and matters relating to policy, by a Standing Committee or Advisory Council, on which will be included the members of Parliament representing Delhi. Representatives of Delhi would be increased from four to five in the Lok Sabha and from one to three in the Rajya Sabha.

Further, it might be possible to associate with the administration two or three non-officials elected by the Corporation in Delhi. He had not worked out the scheme in detail but said that the Mayor of the proposed Corporation and Vice-Chancellor of Delhi University will be among the eminent persons to be associated with the Advisory Committee, to be set up to guide the administrator. Later he said that some members of the Corporation will also be associated with the Council.

As an interim measure, on November 1, or immediately before that date on Advisory Council would be set up under the Home Ministry with which the Members of Parliament will be associated.

The President has been authorised to give a designation to the Administrators of the Union Territories that will be formed for November 1. The territories are: Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, Tripura, the Andaman & Nikobar islands and the Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindevi islands.

The Constitution Amendment Bill was passed by the Lok Sabha on September 6.

So far as rural areas of Delhi are concerned, Pandit Pant said the idea at present was—but he was prepared to discuss this matter again—that the rural areas, too, should form part of the Corporation. But there should be a Committee consisting of the members elected from the rural areas with special functions and duties allotted to them by the statute under which the Corporation will be established so that they may not have a multiplicity of such bodies and all may be brought, as far as possible, within one common unit.

He also hoped that there will be provision for regional committees under the Corporation to look after elementary functions, which can well be discharged by local people themselves in their respective areas.

The Panchayats in the rural areas will continue.

The Home Minister hoped that the Delhi Corporation may come into existence, if possible, not long after the launching of these new States. The Parliament will have to pass the Corporation Bill.

Role Of Services In Transition Period

Dr. Rajendra Prasad's Advice

The President Dr. Rajendra Prasad emphasized the "great role" the Services have to play during the present transition period of reconstruction in the country, while addressing members of the Indian Officers' Association, Madras, after laying the foundation-stone of its hostel building in Madras on August 13. He said the country was gradually getting into the beginning of a welfare State. Till now officers were concerned with the collection of revenue or the maintenance of law and order or decision of courts. Now they had to take charge of big industrial undertakings, big river valley projects, insurance work and also bank work. He did not know how many more works they had to undertake. While they always lookd out for men outside the services, they naturally called upon the services whenever there was difficulty.

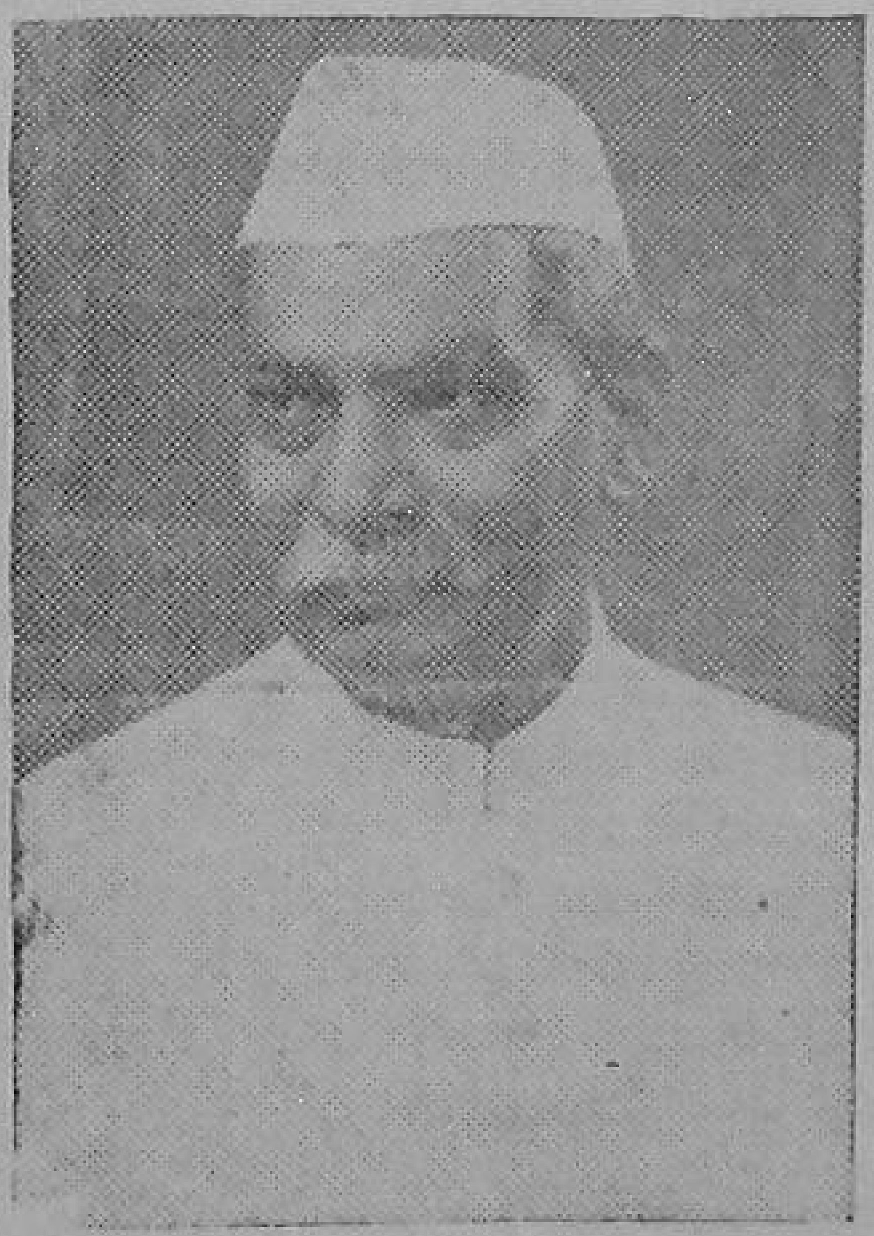
The President commended the "steel-frame's" quality to adopt itself to the changed conditions, and to work as efficiently for a welfare State as it had done for a Police State.

Dr. Rajendra Prasad said India. had every reason to be grateful to the Services for maintaining their tradition, and work for peace and prosperity of the country.

The President called upon the Services "to do even greater service than they had done in the past." "Our ideals have changed. What we propose to do is something which we have not done so far," he said. "During this period — transition period of reconstruction — we have to depend upon the Services for a great deal. I have no doubt, in future, as the work grows men will rise to their responsibilities and that they will be able to discharge the duties with as great effectiveness as they had done in the past."

British Model For Constitution

The President said one of the most important problems which faced the framers of the Indian Constitution was which of the several constitutions in the world they should select for their country. It was with a great deal of thought and deliberation that they had decided to accept the British Constitution, by and large, as a model, on which the Indian Constitution should be framed. One of the important things in the British Constitution and its working was the relationship between those who actually were responsible for making the policies and those who were responsible for executing or actually implementing them.



Dr. Rajendra Prasad,
President, Republic of India.

Division of Work Between Ministers and Services

That was what the Indian Constitution had also adopted for the division of work between the Ministers and the Services. "Ministers may come and go, but Services always remain. Individuals may change, but the civil service remains in the various capacities to carry out and continue the work which is entrusted to them", he said.

Services Understand Their Position

It was, therefore, a matter of great pleasure, the President said, to note that

the services did understand their position. Ministers being new to their work did sometimes make mistakes, but it was for the Services to advise them correctly so that mistakes, which might arise, should not be perpetrated to the detriment of the country.

The President said : "One of the great things which the British did for us was to give us a well-knit, well-organized and well-experienced cadre of Service people, who were spread all over the country and who in the absence of everything else for the time being, were holding it togethre. I am not exaggerating it when I say it. We do appreciate it. But fot the help and assistance of the Services, which was rendered all over the country in those difficult days of 1947 when we had such tremendous exdous from one part of the country to another, we do not know whether we would have found ourselves in the same position as we are today

"The transfer of power was smoothly effected, because we had the services to run the administration all over the country. I can say this without any fear of contradiction that in the most distant villages, nobody felt that there has been any change. That was because of the fact that the British left us the Services which was able to maintain the tradition and work for the peace and prosperity of the country."

President Rajendra Prasad referred to the new department of External Affairs, which had come to them after the attainment of independence. In filling up posts in that department, they had to take people who were actually in the services to fill the most important post there.

Part In Establishing Welfare State

"I hope and I am correct in saying that there also we have some satisfaction from what we have done," he said. It had been possible for the Government to go in the various directions, not only in the matter of attainment of the present status of full and independent nation but also in the direction of establishing a welfare State with the assistance of the Services. The services, therefore, were the foundation on which the superstructure was being built.

Tribute To Madras

Dr. Rajendra Prasad also paid tributes the city of Madras, for her great tradition of sending out talented and efficient administrators for service in other parts of the country.

Fundamental Principle

Mr. Justice P. Govinda Menon, President of the Association, welcoming the President, stressed the fundamental principle of public administration, namely, the separation of the spheres of policy making and administration. "In modern democratic set-up, this separation of the functions is all the more important and essential, than under any other system of government. Policy-making being the sphere of the elected representatives of the people they left the administration to the sphere of the civil servants of various grades, inspired, guided, directed and controlled by those at the top," he said.

Mr. V. T. K.'s Services

The President unveiling a portrait of Mr. V. T. Krishnamachari at the Indian Officers' Association, described him as one "who has given his best to the service of the country in various capacities."

He praised the conscientious manner in which Mr. Krishnamachari, Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, had always discharged the "exacting work" entrusted to him. Mr. Krishnamachari had also a grip on every detail of the work entrusted to him.

The President said that even at this advanced age Mr. Krishnamachari was not thinking of running away from duty which had been enforced upon him. "It is felt that it is difficult to replace him," Dr. Rajendra Prasad added.

Dr. Rajendra Prasad wished Mr. Krishnamachari many more years of useful service to the country "to which he has dedicated himself.

Public Administration In India

Paul H. Appleby's Second Report

An outspoken criticism of the processes of the Indian administrative system is contained in the second report of Mr. Paul H. Appleby, American expert on public administration.

The report was laid on the table of Parliament on August 13.

Granted prior agreement in principle on the kind and dimension of the programmes to be undertaken and the amount of money to be made available for the purpose, says Mr. Appleby, "specific decisions incident to effectuation of purpose in India are reviewed by too many persons in too many organs of the Government in too detailed, too repetitive and too negative terms.

"Perhaps nowhere else have so many systematic barriers been erected to prevent the accomplishment of that which it has been determined should be done."

Cabinet Responsibility

The expert remarks that "by a curious proliferation of the conceptions of Parliamentary responsibility and Cabinet responsibility and by reliance on excessive procedures of cross-reference there has been built an extra-ordinary evasion of individual responsibility and a system whereby everybody is responsible for everything before anything is done."

Mr. Appleby's criticisms are also directed against the "exaggerated importance" given to the functions of the Comptroller and Auditor-General and Parliament's "negative influence" on the administration.

Administrative Reform

Mr. Appleby, in his suggestions for the reform of the administration, has emphasised the need for a reorientation of the present practices of review from a preponderantly "negative concern for precedent and rupee-pinching" to a positive one of expeditious action in pursuit of agreed-upon objectives.

The report points out that the existing procedure is not simply a habit of bureaucracy, is not a product of the I. C. S., or of the Finance Ministry or the Civil Service generally. "Responsibility for this procedure is shared by almost everybody — and not least by Parliament."

Mr. Appleby who undertook the probe into India's administrative system for the second time in recent years with special reference to administration of the Government's industrial and commercial enterprises says, the great achievements of recent years have been made beyond the administrative system.

Key Personnel

"By working key personnel very excessive hours, by giving special attention to a very disproportionate number of transactions, by stubborn persistence of pragmatic officials in the face of frustration, great results have been achieved. There is an early limit, however, to what may be done in this fashion. It puts too much reliance on a very small number of individuals whereas for a much greater achievement reliance must be on a greatly improved organisational performance of a systematic character."

"There is no lack of idealism or of great vision in India or in the Indian Government. But far too much of the dynamism and imagination characterisng the setting of objectives is smothered in procedures dominated by small thinking."

Near the heart of the problem, Mr. Appleby states, is a failure to realise and understand that the Government of India — Centre, State, Municipal and Rural—will and must grow greatly and rapidly in size, and that this growth compels changes in procedures of a kind directly related to the size of the Government.

"As tasks become more numerous and difficult, the simple structural change that makes their handling possible is a widening and deepening of hierarchy — the establishment of new subordinate levels to which more tasks, old and new, may be delegated."

Citing the series of approval a particular project requires from various Ministers, Mr. Appleby said these various approvals were not for the entire project originally approved by those primarily concerned, but for each implementing action necessary to that project. "And the process of review is unbelievably petty and frustrating."

Ministry's Review

Dealing at length with the process of review by the Finance Ministry, Mr. Appleby observes that in reality a question raised by an assistant has the effect of being in a good many instances a "disapproval" by the ministry of Finance. Similarly, the withholding of approval at each successively higher level is actual and effectively disapproving in most instances, and the failure of the Minister of Finance to approve is actually a disapproval in all instances, when the Ministry, making the original proposal is unwilling to burden the Cabinet with the dispute.

Even when approval is secured at any of the intermediate levels, the earlier and lower level questions and withholding of approval were decisions to delay action. Very often delay is highly wasteful, retards achievement of plan objectives, and is particularly tragic when it is based only on trivialities or downright ignorance.

Acting under the same general forces of public and Parliamentary opinion, Mr. Appleby says, the Home Affairs Ministry often is similarly negative and at the same time confined by some special rules, laws and constitutional provisions, as well as by administrative conventions.

On the difficulties in the personnel field, Mr. Appleby says admittedly there must be some reasonable degree of consistency in pay standards and, therefore, in grades of positions to be filled, there must be some consistency in workloads so that one agency does not have many officials to handle a relatively small programme while another with a programme of similar size has fewer officials ; there must be some systematic method for clarifying eligibility to appointment. "The present practice imposed on the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Public Service Commission have made for pettiness, unimaginativeness, inflexibility and a tempo in which a calendar has more relevance than a clock."

"There are too definite and inadequate notions about entrance so that many qualified persons are not attracted to the public service. There are absurd requirements for fixed periods of service in one grade before promotion to another grade will be considered. There are too many special services, and too definite demarcations of classes within services so that altogether there is too little flexibility and mobility. At the other extreme, there are instances in which the movement of key personnel from one assignment to another has been made too rapidly and in too many posts.

Mr. Appleby points out that the morale of public personnel is deteriorating before repeated Parliamentary proposals to reduce pay. "In this situation the inclination to a strict dedication and the sense of engagement in a vital mission was weak. Pay is by no means the only factor in this, but it is an important factor. With the theoretical, pay of Rs. 4,000 per month, now having buying power of only Rs. 726 in 1939 terms, the scale-down has been much more drastic than most people realise. Future mass income is thoroughly dependent on the success of the Indian Government. In their own interest, the people must be willing to pay what a adequate and successful government will cost."

Audit-Chief's Functions "Not Very Important"

In his appraisal of the functions of the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India, Mr. Appleby has expressed the view that the function of auditing is a strictly negative one.

"The Comptroller and Auditor-General's function is not really a very important one. Auditors do not know and cannot be expected to know very much about good

administration. Their prestige is highest with others who do not know much about administration. What auditors know is auditing — which is not administration. It is a necessary, but highly pedestrian function with a narrow perspective and very limited usefulness. Any Deputy Secretary knows vastly more about significant problems in his Ministry than the entire staff of the Comptroller and Auditor-General can discover by auditing."

Mr. Appleby finds fault with members of Parliament for greatly exaggerating the importance of the function of the Comptroller and Auditor-General and paying far too much attention to his reports. "So doing, Parliament increases the timidity of public servants at all levels, making them unwilling to take responsibility for decisions, forcing decisions to be made by a slow and cumbersome process of reference and conference in which everybody finally shares dimly in the making of every decision, not enough gets done and what gets done is done too slowly."

Mr. Appleby asks what special competence for appraising objectives and appraising administrative performance in general has the Comptroller and Auditor-General, what is the Cabinet for, what is the Prime Minister for, what are the individual Ministers for, what is a secretariat for, and what is a bureaucracy for ?

"Parliament is surely at fault in this. It has a greatly exaggerated notion of the importance of auditing to parliamentary responsibility, and so has failed to define the functions of the Comptroller and Auditor-General as the Constitution contemplated it would do. Into the vacuum thus left, the auditor has moved.

"Beyond a legal definition confining his whole function, however, the Comptroller and Auditor-General can make his function most useful by confining himself further. Too many of his reports are mere substitutions of hind-sight for the kind of judgment possible and necessary and proper at the time of actions. Too many merely raise questions that are really questions of differences in judgment."

Mr. Appleby's criticisms of Parliament are based on six grounds — audit reports focus parliamentary attention on little things ; "too much and vague fear" that its responsibilities are not being preserved ; its bias — "anomalous in India in 1956" —for reliance on the judgment of business men," its inclination to make too ready concessions to some of the self-interested demands of small but influential business interests. Its endorsement of the formerly small and narrow approach of the Public Service Commission ; and its opposition to delegation of powers "the need for which is the worst shortcoming of Indian administration.

"Parliament's reluctance to delegate powers in detail — as it is essential to do if parliamentary powers are to be important and positive — discourages Ministers, Secretaries and Managing Directors from delegating their powers.

"What India needs more than anything else, what Parliament needs most, is more government by joint-secretaries, more government by deputy-secretaries, more government by under-secretaries and more government by managing directors and their subordinates. This is the only way in which there can be more government altogether and more achievement for Parliament io give general guidance to."

Mr. Appleby adds : "Unless this Parliament accommodates itself to the needs for larger action and elevates its own approach to affairs to the appropriate high level of general direction, India's future will be precarious. Parliament needs to become sensitive to the necessity of operating on a high level. In respect of administration it almost uniformly functions on a low level.

Simplest Way

"I am inclined to suggest that the simplest way in which Parliament could reverse its influence on administration from a negative one to a positive one would be for it to stop looking for things to criticise and to begin looking for things to praise."

The suggestions for administrative reform made by Mr. Appleby include development of intra-ministerial financial competence in the programme agencies, transfer of the accounting functions to the ministers under the general direction of finance, limitation of the role of the Comptroller and Auditor-General, improvement in personnel recruitment and arrangement and elevation of the approach of parliamentarians to a more general and positive appraisal of administration.

Cabinet Secretariat

Mr. Appleby has also suggested that an official of high stature should be designated in the Cabinet Secretariat as programme expediter or plan expediter, given strong Cabinet support and provided with sufficient staff of maturity and status "to enable him to serve as umpire, trouble-shooter, bottle-neck breaker, procedure reformer and structural advisor." In the Ministry of Finance, according to the expert, it would appear useful to designate as a special *aide* to the expenditure secretary another official of stature, whose function would be to accelerate decision-making in the Ministry.

Mr. Appleby concludes his report with the statement that he does not suggest throwing the present system or any large part of it "out of the window wholesale."

"Proposals made point to a direction in which reform can move and underscore the conviction that unless reform is promptly undertaken and deligently pursued as a difinite objective, the larger reforms otherwise necessary and feasible will never be attained."

M. P. Criticises Appleby

Mr. T. N. Singh, a former member of the Estimates Committee, in the Lok Sabha on August 22, strongly commented upon the Appleby report on general administration. Mr. Singh assested that Dr. Appleby criticism of Parliament and its committees, was "very very unfair." "I would like to know whether that person ever tried to consult the members of Parliament or of the committees. He has criticised this House for tyring to keep watch over finances of the Government. What for are we here ?"

It was "rather serious that somebody should criticise us ex-parte." The report had been circulated and published and "we are here helpless." Members of the House did not even know what was the occasion for the report, Mr. Singh added.

Administrative Rigidities—A Serious Problem

—Prof. Mahalanobis,

"Administrative regidities in Government" constitute a serious problem to India's programme for development and industrialisation Mr. P. C. Mahalanobis, Director of the Indian Statistical Institute and author of the Second Five-Year Plan frame, said in Calcutta on August 19.

Removal of these "administrative rigidities" was essential for progress, he added. "It was no fault of the Government servant if he was unable to show any initiative to make quick decisions. He was fettered by a system of administration which effectively prevented him from taking the initiative," he observed.

In this respect, he said the report of Mr. Appleby was "most valuable and important because it has brought out some of the great weaknesses in the administrative system."

Appleby Report Welcome

"India's crucial bottleneck in her programme for development and industrialisation is the lack of seientific and technical manpower," the Professor said.

During his recent visit to the U.S.A., Prof. Mahalanobis was much impressed by the emphasis which American scientific circles were laying on the need of the U.S. increasing the out-turn of scientists and technologists.

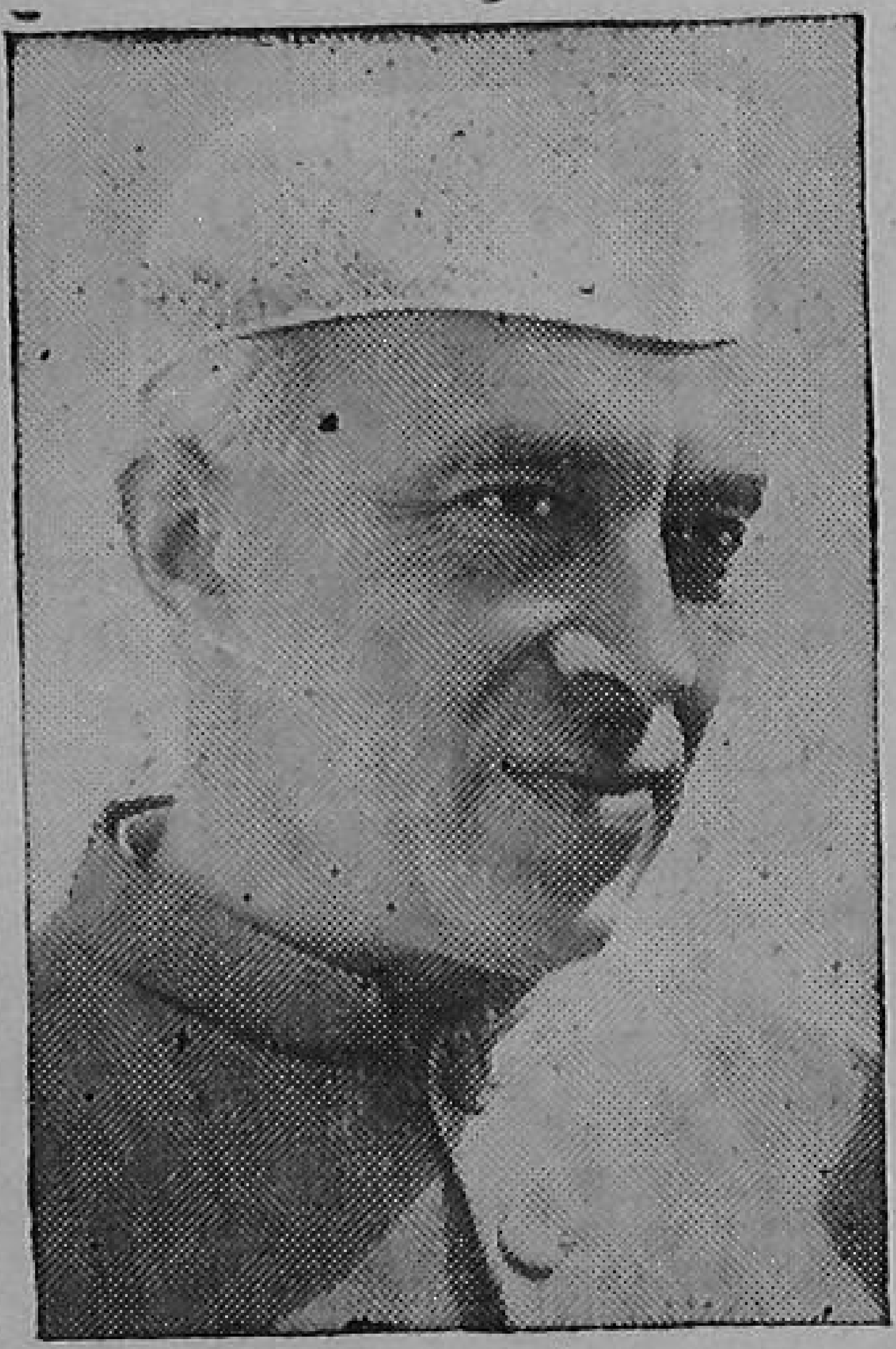
He said the fact that the Soviet Union was now producing approximately twice as many scientists and technicians a year as the U. S., had been noted with serious concern there, he said.

"Nothing Is More Expensive Than Delay"

—Prime Minister

The Prime Minister said in the Lok Sabha on August 8 : "Nothing is more expensive than delay." He was replying to a supplementary on public expenditure.

He drew attention of the House to the recent report of Mr. Appleby, the Ford-Foundation Expert in Public Administration, who had pointed out that probably the greatest



Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru,
The Prime Minister of India.

cause of waste was the intricate system of delayed sanctions.

The Prime Minister said : "If in trying to go through a certain procedure which might save you, let us say, Rs. 50,000, you hold up projects costing Rs. 10 lakhs a day so that the result is there is far greater loss from the work not being done."

"As the work is proceeding and grows bigger and bigger and there are more and more projects our general approach is there should be less and less interference from the Central Government in individual sanctions. You may punish a person who misbehaves, but let not the work be held up", Mr. Nehru said.

Decentralisation

The Prime Minister also said that the question of decentralisation of financial control had been considered and "is being considered and partly given effect to."

Plan Projects Committee

Earlier, Mr. M. C. Shah, Minister for Revenue and Civil Expenditure, informed the House that the high power committee on plan projects approved by the National Development Council was set up on August 1 and would now start its work. The committee, he said, would appoint certain team of officials and non-officials to inspect and examine expenditure of the various projects of the centre and the States.

Streamlining of Administration

Dr. J. C. Ghosh, member, Planning Commission, in the course of a talk broadcast from the Delhi Station of all-India Radio, on the "Introduction to the Second Five-Year Plan", said that Government have responded by strengthening the administrative machinery. A managerial pool is being created which will include business managers, cost accountants and industrial administrators and training facilities for such personnel are being developed.

Government procedure is being streamlined to avoid the proverbial delays and a new outlook among officials in favour of quick action is being infused.

In national extension and community projects, indeed in all spheres of nation-building, the tasks of planning are being seen mere and more as a partnership between public servants and local communities and their leaders.

Auditor-General's Criticism Of Appleby Report

Mr. A. K. Chanda, Comptroller and Auditor-General, India, said in Lucknow on August 15 that the observations of the American expert on public administration, Dr. Paul H. Appleby, on the Indian audit organization were "obviously coloured".

Dr. Appleby in his second report has expressed the view that the function of the Comptroller and Auditor-General is "not really a very important one" and that auditors did not know and could not be expected to know very much about administration.

Mr. Chanda said in an interview: "I refrain from commenting on the observations made by Mr. Appleby at this stage except on his main thesis that audit saps initiative. Does he know how many incompetent officers or officers afraid to take responsibility have urged in extenuation that they were afraid of what audit would say?"

The Auditor-General continued: "I notice that he has not limited his observations merely to audit arrangements which he considers suitable for Government's industrial and commercial organizations, but has also questioned and criticized the Comptroller and Auditor-General's responsibilities over the general field of financial administration.

"Mr. Appleby seems allergic to audit which he describes as a 'highly pedestrian function with a narrow perspective and very limited usefulness. This attitude of mind has obviously coloured his observations on the Indian audit organisation. I should have thought that any expert invited to report on a problem must inevitably examine this in detail, undertaking a study of all relevant material. Mr. Appleby has, however, formulated his proposals without an examination and study of the structure, relevant procedures, technical and other rules and regulations of the audit department. He did not consider it even necessary to have any discussion with those in charge of the organization. His report has thus become a reflection of his prejudices rather than an objective appreciation based on a careful study", he added.

Auditor-General's Functions

Regarding Dr. Appleby's observation that "the function of the Comptroller and Auditor-General in India is, in a large measure, an inheritance from colonial rule". Mr. Chanda said: "I do not know the historical basis for such an observation. I do not know of any colonial system which had or has an analogous post, independent of the Executive with freedom to criticize administrative lapses. The conception of such a post runs counter to that of a colonial or autocratic system".

Mr. Chanda said that any student of constitutional history would be aware that this post was an essential one in a democratic form of government as its functions were so defined as to secure public accountability of the administration. It would almost appear as if Mr. Appleby was hardly conversant with the statutes of his own country, which defined the authority of the Comptroller-General in relation to Government corporations. In the U. S. A. the Comptroller-General's audit covered banking and insurance institutions and other corporations in which the Government had any financial interest, even when it was not a majority. The U.S. Comptroller-General had also been given the power to issue surcharges against corporations and individual officers to effect recovery of expenditure which, in his opinion, was illegal.

Foreign Precedents

Mr. Chanda said that the powers of the Comptroller and Auditor-General in the U.K., as defined in the Exchequer and the Audit Act, were not also different from the present powers of his counterpart in India, except that they were more comprehensively defined.

In the continental democracies, Mr. Chanda, added, there was a constituted court of accounts with a president who fulfilled analogous functions as the Comptroller and Auditor-General.

"It is only against this background that the validity or the usefulness of Mr. Appleby's recommendations should be assessed. It might also be mentioned here that Prof. Kaldor, the British expert, had recommended that auditors should be appointed by the Comptroller and Auditor-General to audit even the accounts of income and other taxes", Mr. Chanda said.

Public Administration In States

Andhra

4,000 Employees Moving to Hyderabad

All the offices of the present Andhra State, now dispersed in Kurnool, Madras and Guntur, will be gathered in Hyderabad city in the new administrative set up of the enlarged Andhra Pradesh State, which will come into being on November 1. The Secretariat building in Hyderabad in being expanded, the Legislative Assembly building is being altered and quarters are to be built for legislators.

About 4,000 employees from Andhra would be moving to Hyderabad with the integration, and houses will have to be found for them. A thousand tenements for non-gazetted staff and 100 for junior officers are to be constructed immediately. The Sanatnagar labour housing colony with 800 tenements is being temporarily placed at the disposal of the Government for housing the non-gazetted staff. The Central Government has granted Rs. 75 lakhs for the building programme of the new capital.

Mr. O. Pulla Reddy, Chief Secretary of Andhra, will be the Chief Secretary of the Andhra Pradesh and will be incharge of the General Administration Department. He will be assisted by 12 Secretaries.

Assam

Revised Pay Scales

Revised pay-scales, ranging between Rs. 28 for peons and Rs. 1,500 for heads of departments at the top grade, will come into force for Assam Government employees from October 1. The scales are based on the recommendations of the Pay Committee appointed by the State Government in July, 1955. The Committee's recommendations have been accepted by the State Government with minor modifications. The Assam Government said that the details regarding the rates of increment, the number of efficiency bars, confirmation and the principle governing the fixation of initial salaries of the present Government servants, will require further examination.

At the bottom are peons, orderlies and Excise peons, in a grade of Rs. 28 to Rs. 40, and at the top rung are placed heads of departments with a scale of Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 1,500.

Bihar

Damodar Valley Corporation's Wasteful Expenditure

The Public Account Committee in its 18th Report on the Audit Reports dealing with the accounts of the Damodar Valley Corporation for 1952-53 and 1953-54, presented to the Lok Sabha on August 16, criticised the Damodar Valley Corporation for executing certain works, costing about Rs. 7.4 lakhs, for which there was no ostensible urgency, without calling for tenders, and suggested that suitable action should be taken against the officers concerned.

Rs. 119 Lakhs Over-Payment

The Committee also urged that steps should be taken without further delay to recover the over-payment made to Messrs. Hind Patel & Co. for certain works at the Konar Dam. It criticised the appointment of a third committee to assess the amount of over-payment. The Committee said that D. V. C. Enquiry Committee had assessed the amount of extra payment to this firm at Rs. 119 lakhs while the two technical experts of the Central Government had arrived at the figures of Rs. 94 lakhs and Rs. 114 lakhs respectively. The Government, the Committee said, had already a "dimensional figure" of the over-payment made on the basis of which it could proceed to negotiate with the firm for securing the refund of the excess amount.

Rs. 18 Lakh Avoidable Loss

The Committee regretted that the Damodar Valley Corporation incurred an expenditure of about Rs. 18 lakhs on buildings and reclamation of land, which persons displaced by the project did not occupy.

The Corporation should have started this work after obtaining an undertaking from the Bihar Government that it would reimburse the Corporation the losses that might be incurred by it if the displaced persons opted later to have cash compensation instead of "land for land" or "house for house".

It has asked the Corporation to apprise it of the action taken against a former Brick Supply Officer and the Executive Engineer concerned for failing to render proper accounts of the cost of bricks manufactured in 1951-52 and 1952-53, which came to Rs. 4.5 lakhs.

Colossal Waste of Public Funds

Mr. P. S. Kumarswami Raja the out going Governor of Orissa, said in Coimbatore on August 29 that there was colossal wastage of public funds in the Damodar Valley Corporation, which was being called the "pride of India". The Governor, who had visited the project recently, said he was surprised to see about half a dozen executive engineers, besides a superintending engineer, at the work spot, whereas it was the job of one executive engineer.

One executive engineer was in charge of the entire construction of the Lower Bhavani Project in Madras State, costing over Rs. 10 crores while for similar projects in the North at least one superintending engineer and three or four executive engineers would be in charge.

With regard to use of materials for dam construction, he said North Indian engineers were reluctant to use stones. Those persons who advocated sarvodaya and favoured cottage industries wanted that machinery should be imported from foreign countries.

Secretariat Reorganization

The Bihar Government has decided to reorganise the State Secretariat for better administration and expeditious execution of development programmes. The Development Department will be split up into two. Economic planning will be under the Development Commissioner. A separate Department for Health, Gram Panchayats, Local Self-Government and Housing will be created.

The rules of executive business are also proposed to be so amended so that proposals to authorise an advance exceeding Rs. 20,000 (instead of Rs. 5,000 as at present) from the State contingency fund will be placed before the Council of Ministers for approval.

Adverse Findings Against Officers

A Bihar Government Press Note issued on August 4 said that the State Government had decided to refer the cases of two members of the Indian Police Service against whom the Das Commission had made adverse comments in connection with the police firings in Patna in mid-August last year to the Union Public Service Commission for advice regarding disciplinary action. The cases of two members of the Junior Civil Service were also proposed to be referred to the State Public Service Commission. The one-man Das Commission, comprising of Mr. S. K. Das, the then Chief Justice of the Patna High Court (now a Judge of the Supreme Court) which had probed into the causes and circumstances of the Patna disturbances and the police firings of August, 1955, had made some adverse comments against these officers. Five persons were killed and many injured in the police firings.

Secretariat Assistants

About 1,500 temoprary lower division assistants in Patna Secretariat have made a representation against their threatened discharge and suggested that they should be made permanent. It was said that the temporary hands with experience ranging from 3 to 18 years were being replaced by fresh recruits to service who had passed the Secretariat Lower Division Examination.

The Patna Secretariat Ministerial Officers' Association in a telegram to the Chief Minister and other Ministers has portested against the proposal for direct recruitment to the posts of upper division assistants, as, the telegram said, there were hundreds of qualified men in the lower division awaiting promotion to the upper division.

New Chief Secretary

Mr. M. S. Rao, I. C. S., has taken over as Chief Secretary of Bihar State from Mr. L.P. Singh, who has joined the Union Home Ministry.

Hyderabad

Public Service Commission Report

Mr. B. Ramakrishna Rao, Chief Minister, on August 8 defended his Government's rejection of the recommendations of the State Public Service Commission in six cases on grounds of administrative convenience and needs. The Chief Minister was winding up the debate in the State Assembly over the report of the Commission for 1954-55. A former Congress Minister expressed the fears that the "reputation and prestige" of the Government might suffer in view of the outspoken and uncomplimentary remarks of the Commission. An Opposition member sarcastically suggested that the State Government should ask the Centre to amend the Constitution and abolish all State Public Service Commissions.

The Chief Minister, in his reply, maintained that the number of cases wherein Commission's advice was rejected was insignificantly small in relation to the total number of cases referred to it. He denied that the Government was capricious or arbitary in its rejection. He would not accept the suggestion that the Commission's advice was to be accepted in all cases, for, in that case, the role of the Commission would not have been intended to be purely an advisory one.

Audit Report : "Sorry State of Affairs"

According to the first report on the Appropriation Accounts 1951-52 and the Audit Report, 1953, submitted to the State Assembly on August 10 by Mr. V. R. Vidyalankar, State's Finance Minister and Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee, in construction division of a major irrigation project fictitious muster-rolls for Rs. 3,179 relating to a period of ten months during 1950-51, were prepared, checked, passed and paid on one and the same day.

It was stated in the Audit Report that the Revenue authorities had drawn a sum of Rs. 8,47,811 during the years 1951-52 and 1952-53 for disbursement of taccavi loans to cultivators of which accounts were rendered to audit for Rs. 5,15,040 only, leaving a balance of Rs. 3,40,771 unaccounted for. This, the report stated, indicated a "sorry state of affairs."

Department of Public Administration

The Chief Minister, inaugurated the department of Public Administration of the evening college under the auspices of the Osmania University in Hyderabad city on August 4. The department will train students for diploma and certificate courses. Graduates are eligible for admission to the two-year diploma course. The minimum qualification for a certificate course is matriculation and the duration of training is one year. Mr. Rao said it had been felt by the Central and State Governments that the method of public administration in this country needed a great change. So far the administrative structure, which had been stereotyped and bureaucratic, had become a sort of handicap for the speedy advancement of the country.

Jammu & Kashmir

18 Officials Suspended

Eighteen officials, including two Deputy Directors of the Kashmir Sericulture Department, have been suspended by the Jammu & Kashmir Government in connection with alleged embezzlement of Government funds in the department. Bakshi Ghulam Mohammed visited the factory, where some registers and other records were seized by the police.

Madhya Bharat

Estimates Committee Report

The Estimates Committee of the Madhya Bharat Legislative Assembly in its report submitted on August 29, has recommended the creation of a State Purchase Corporation for buying heavy machinery. Till the time the Corporation is established, it is suggested that a Purchase Committee should be formed with a non-official as Chairman with powers to buy machinery worth up to Rs. 50,000.

The Committee said Rs. 4,83,468 could have been saved last year from the Budget provisions if two or three superintending

engineers' divisions had been abolished, the amounts for development works carefully budgeted and the allocation of amounts under the head "unforseen" expenditure stopped.

The Committee has found substance in the general complaint that bribery and corruption were rampart in the State P.W.D. Award of deterrent and exempelary punishment has been recommended.

Conveyance Allowance

The Committee has suggested enhancement of the conveyance allowance from six annas to eight annas per mile to Government officials if they used their cars while on tour. This was to encourage them to make use of their vehicles and complete their work soon.

Madras

Economy In Administration

Replying to the three-day debate on the Governor's address in the Legislative Council on August 13 Mr. M. Bhaktavatsalam, Leader of the House, said the Government would see to what extent it could reduce the expenditure without prejudice to the efficiency of the administration and to the needs of the expending development sections of the administration in the light of the reorganisation of the State.

He assured the House that there was no complacency on the part of the Government with reference to reduction of expenditure or retrenchment in the administration. The Government were anxious that they must reduce expenditure particularly when the area of the State had been reduced. "Although the area is cut down, the administration has to be carried on and we cannot proportionately reduce the size of the organisation."

Community Development

Referring to the criticism about the "over-expenditure" on the staff of the community development areas, Mr. Bhaktavatsalam pointed out that the work done there was a new type of work. The reports of the evaluation committees were very encouraging. They pointed out that the progress of work was commensurate with the expenditure incurred.

Tamil As State Language

Mr. Sri Prakasa, Madras Governor, while inaugurating the new session of the legislature with a joint address to the two Houses, announced on August 8 the State Government's intention to legislate, in terms of Article 345 of the Constitution to adopt Tamil as the State Language at an early date. Mr. Sri Prakash said the reorganisation of the State, now under way, would leave it with a fair measure of linguistic homogeneity. Government was, therefore, considering how best the language for the purpose of administration could be changed from English to Tamil.

Referring to the jubilation at Tamil being made the official language of the State, Mr. M. Bhaktavtsalam, Leader of the House, replying to the three-day debate on the Governor's address in the Legislative Council on August 13, explained that the step was not a new one. Already petitions received in Tamil were replied to in Tamil and correspondence of Government in mofussil parts was carried on in Tamil. They should not think they were heading for a sovereign state, but remember they were parts of the Indian Union.

P. A. C. Report : Idle Road Rollers

According to the Public Accounts Committee's report for the year 1952-53, presented to the State Assembly on August 13, during the period 1946 to 1951 the Highways Department purchased through the Government of India 594 road rollers at a cost of about Rs. 2.5 crores. The rollers could not, however, be utilized as and when received, owing to the slowing down of the road works programme, mainly as a result of financial stringency. Many of the rollers had, therefore, to be kept in storage for a long time. The Committee observed with regret that no accounts had been maintained by the Department *ab initio*, showing the operating results of the rollers which involved such a large outlay.

Accounts For 1954-55

The Committee was also perturbed to find that the accounts for the year ending 31st March 1955 had not been produced even till April, 1956, when the Committee met.

More D-A. For N. G. Os.

Mr. M. Bhaktavatsalam, Leader of the House, replying to the debate on the Governor's address in the Council on August 13 said the Government had been examining the question of enhancing the dearness allowance of the N.G.O.s, but he pointed out, whatever the difficulties a sense of discipline must be observed.

Mysore

Uniformity of Pay Scales : Outgoing Chief Minister's Views

Mr. K. Hanumanthaiya, outgoing Chief Minister of Mysore in a farewell address to heads of departments and other officers of the State Secretariat on August 18, said : "Whatever may be the department, whatever may be the area, unless we introduce uniformity in pay scales, there will be, and very naturally, a great deal of dissatisfaction among Government employees. I have already initiated in my own way the idea that everyone who works in the new State of Mysore will have to be accorded equal treatment in regard to his salaries and emoluments." Mr. Hanumanthaiya assured the officers that he would see to the best of his ability that principle of uniformity was applied and worked in the new State of Mysore.

He characterized his administration during the last 4½ years as "a distinguished chapter in the history of Mysore", for which credit should go to all government employees.

Double Responsibility

Referring to the political change in Mysore, Mr. Hanumanthaiya said that when Governments became unstable, a double responsibility rested on officers. It would be very difficult for them to be impartial, just and fair when political and communal influences were brought to bear by people who had political influence. They had successfully resisted all those temptations during the last four and a half years and that would be appreciated by the people after the present political controversies ended.

Delays and Red Tapism: New Chief Minister's Views

In his first address to Government officers in Bangalore on August 22, Mr. Kadidal Manjappa, Mysore's new Chief Minister, called upon them to put an end to delay and eradicate red-tapism in the Government. He said that in spite of the best efforts of the Cabinet those evils still persisted.

He was sorry to observe that more importance had been attached to procedure than to results to be achieved. It was necessary, he pointed out, to amend the rules of procedure with a view to disposing of papers quickly.

He advised officers to think that they were the servants of the people and their object should be to help the people.

Essence of Good Administration

He reitarated the policy enunciated by his predecessor, Mr. K. Hanumanthaiya, that uniform treatment was the essence of good administration. People in general did not find fault with the Government if they did not readily solve big problems, but they would find fault if the Government applied different principles to different individuals. The efficiency of the administration was judged by the way in which the people were treated, he added.

Vidhan Sabha Enquiry

Mr. K. S. Malle Gowda, Secretary of the Vidhan Sabha Enquiry Committee in a Press Note said that the Committee had extended the date of submitting statements to it by persons and associations interested in the enquiry from August 16 to August 29.

Orissa

Too Much Interference By Centre

Mr. P. S. Kumaraswami Raja, Governor of Orissa, who was on a short visit to Coimbatore, before handing over his office to his successor, Mr. Bhim Sen Sachar, said in Coimbatore on August 29 that there was a tendency on the part of the Central Government to interfere too much in the

affairs of the State Government because they had paid some grants.

Ministers and Officials

Mr. Raja said there was "too much unnecessary intereference" by Ministers in day-to-day work of officials. They had made it a point to make some alteration here and there even if the work was found to be 100 per cent. correct.

Punjab

Engineers Disapprove Secretariat Changes

The East Punjab Engineers' Association, which represents the State's superior engineering cadres, has disapproved of the changes the Government is proposing to introduce in the Punjab Secretariat set-up. One of the important changes approved by the Cabinet is that the head of a department should not simultaneously be Secretary to the Government. This affects the State's seven Chief Engineers, who in addition to being heads of their respective departments act as Secretaries.

At its meeting held in Chandigarh on August 15, the general body of the East Punjab Engineers' Association felt that the proposed separation of the two offices would only impair efficiency and cause delays as it would create an additional channel through which all projects must pass. Even if a trained engineer were posted as Secretary to the Government under the new arrangement, he will not, the Association felt, be able to attend satisfactorily to the administration of such technically varied branches of engineering as electricity, building, roads and irrigation. The Government was, therefore, urged to maintain the existing pattern.

Re-employment of Retired Officers

The Association also adopted a resolution, opposing the re-employment of retired officers. It did not favour this practice as it only caused "frustration and discontentment" among Government employees. The Association, however, had no objection to a general raising of the age of superannuation.

Overseers Protest Against Service Rules

Engineering overseers, belonging to the various branches of the Punjab Public Works Department, have made a strong representation to the Government for revision of their service rules which virtually debar them from being promoted as engineers on a confirmed basis. Their Association has set October 31 as the deadline for the acceptance of their demands regarding promotion and confirmation. At their last meeting in August, the overseers challenged the view held by some senior officials that irregularities in the Bhakra canals and other irrigation works were due to the fact that many engineering posts were held by overseers. The number of trained engineers charged with irregularities, they asserted, was larger than that of overseers.

Anti-Bigamous Marriage Rule Upheld

A division bench of the Pubjab High Court on August 11 dismissed a writ petition, challenging the removal from the Punjab Civil Service of Mr. Onkar Singh, former Treasury Officer of Ambala and now a lecturer at the Government College, Ludhiana, on a charge of unsatisfactory conduct inasmuch as he was alleged to have contravened a decision of the Punjab Government against Government servants contracting another marriage during the lifetime of their first wife. It was alleged that the petitioner's plea was that removal from service was malafide as it was done at the instance of his first father-in-law. He also pleaded that at the time of this second marriage he was not aware of the Government decision regarding plural marriages. He had filed an affidavit to that effect.

Mr. Justice Khosla observed that the Government's decision was well known and that the affidavit must be false.

The petitioner's counsel contended that before removal from the PCS and his reversion to the Punjab Subordinate Education Service, the petitioner was entitled to a show-cause notice and an inquiry. But their lordships refused to interfere.

Rajasthan

Secretariat Reorganistion Pays Results

As a result of the implementation of the

recommendations of the Secretariat Delays Committee appointed in November, 1954, it is claimed that the Secretariat shows increased efficiency and considerable improvement in the system of working and promptness in the movement of files. The committee under the chairmanship of the Home Secretary Mr. S. D. Ujwal was asked to examine the mechanics of the Secretariat work, delegation of powers and methods of disposal, and to make specific recommendations to effect improvement in the quality and speed of the Secretariat work. The committee submitted its report in a month, and the Government decision thereon was taken in January, 1955. Ten months later, in November, 1955, the same committee was asked to review how far its recommendations had been implemented and to make such other recommendations as were necessary for increasing efficiency and speed of work.

Among the important changes brought about as a result of the committee's recommendations is the discontinuance of the centralised control over all gazetted services maintained through the Appointments Department. This department now deals only with matters relating to the I. A. S., I. P. S., R. A. S., and the R. P. S. as well as the O & M Branch, the Secretariat establishment and Secretariat matters.

The Appointments Department, however, continues responsible for disciplinary proceedings against all gazetted officers, maintenance of character rolls and recruitment through combined competitive examinations.

The O & M branch of the Appointments Department, created on the Delays Committee's recommendations, has proved to be of great use and has, therefore, been made a permanent branch in the Secretariat. In course of time it is proposed to extend the activities of this organisation to the offices outside the Secretariat also. The O & M branch functions are: study of standard of work to be expected from the different level of officers, prescribing statements of statistical returns, examination of working of departments on the basis of these returns, inspection of sections, to see that the procedure laid down in the Rajasthan Secretariat Manual is followed and to assess staff requirements in the Secretariat.

The Delays Committee emphasised the need for standing orders regarding disposal of cases. It was thought such orders can ensure that a case is not normally seen by more than two officers (including the Minister) beyond the stage of the Dealing Clerk. The standing orders have recently been revised accordingly, but it has been found impossible to reduce the processing of files to two stages, as contemplated. Detailed instructions, however, have been given so that there is no vagueness regarding the levels at which decisions are to be taken on cases of varying importance. The tendency to either avoid responsibility or assume too much responsibility have both been curtailed.

To ensure better discipline among ministerial and class IV services some disciplinary control has been transferred to the deputy secretaries and assistant secretaries in charge of the sections.

Refresher courses have been started in the Secretariat for training permanent ministerial staff.

The O & M branch is pursuing the compliance of the Committee's recommendations to bring about simplification of procedure relating to registration of inward letters, movement of files, etc.

The emphasis so far has been to see that papers received in the Secretariat are not left unattended to for days. The O & M branch has now taken up the problem of papers put up to officers being not disposed of with sufficient promptness.

While reviewing how far the recommendations made by it earlier had been implemented, the Delays Committee had suggested reorganisation of the sections and staff in the Secretariat. The revised strength has been sanctioned since June 1, 1956. In the new set-up the number of clerks under each superintendent has been reduced so that he may effectively supervise the staff under him, besides noting and drafting himself when necessary. The categories of Secretariat Officers has been limited to three— Secretaries, Deputy Secretaries and Assistant Secretaries.

Saurashtra

Financial Irregularities

A reference to the Appleby Report was made by Mr. G. C. Oza, Revenue Minister, while replying to the criticism regarding administrative irregularities. Mr. Jaswant Metha (P.S.P.), speaking on a cut motion on supplementary demands, had quoted Public Accounts Committee as saying that there was a tendency on the part of various departments to accord *ex post facto* sanction to regularise irregular transactions entered into by departments. The large number of audit objections, he said, had caused concern to its members on the question of competence of the various officers to discharge the functions entrusted to them and also to the type of supervision exrecised by officers over their subordinates. Mr. Metha also complained of slackness and red tapism in the administrative set up.

Mr. Oza, replying to Mr. Mehta's charges, said the administrative personnel in Saurashtra were drawn from 222 princely States which existed before integration. These States had no uniform administrative machinery and some of their staff had no experience of modern administrative practice. He did not want to protect anyone but he wanted that the special circumstances, arising out of integration, should be borne in mind by the critics of administration.

He said that in his report of Mr. Appleby had pointed out the "negative role" of the Comptroller and Auditor-General and also warned against any undue importance being attached to his reports by the legislatures. Mr. Oza said that a change in outlook was necessary if the administration was to be free from too many checks and the Five Year Plan was to be a success.

Audit Report

The Audit Report of the Saurashtra Government presented to the Assembly on August 24 revealed financial irregularities involving Rs. 3,50,000. In one case the head of a department had entered into a contract with a firm in June, 1952, for the supply of electrical materials costing about Rs. 2 lak, without inviting any tenders, and in preference to a lower offer from another firm recommended by the Central Water Power and Commission. This resulted in an avoidable expenditure of Rs. 70,000. The report listed an instance in the Public Works Division of an overseer who had certified as having taken and recorded measurements in a measurement book on a single day travelling 117 miles, whereas on that very day he was reported to have stayed at the headquarters and attended to office work. In two cases where contracts had been with firms for the construction of irrigation works totalling Rs. 22 laks the Government had made extra-gratia payments to the firms amounting to Rs. 1,64,000 without revealing the considerations which prompted it to grant these payments, the report said. A departmental investigation of a Government College revealed shortage of Rs. 6,209 in the cash balance. Over 13,000 library books were also missing.

Travancore-Cochin

Reformation of Administration

Mr. P. S. Rau, Adviser to the Rajpramukh, reviewing the progress of the administration in Travancore-Cochin, claimed in Trivandrum on August 6 "a substantial advance in the reformation of the administration in the last two months". The re-organisation and strengthening of the administration and the implementation of the Five-Year Plan "continue to be watchwords of the administration", he said.

District Headquarters Buildings

He denied that funds earmarked for development plans were being diverted now for constructing buildings at district headquarters. Money was being drawn from the contingency fund till proper allotment was made in the budget for the second half of the current year. The Government was now spending on an average Rs. 10,000 daily on these works, which were already progressing under special engineering staff.

Rs. 110 Lakh Programme

The Lok Sabha on August 27 voted

supplementary demands totalling Rs. 11.58 lakhs in respect of the Travancore-Cochin budget for the current financial year. A token demand is also included towards a Rs. 110-lakh building programme to construct Government offices in the headquarters towns of the State and quarters for the State's constabulary.

For An Efficient Administration

Mr. B. N. Datar, Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs, said that Government was anxious to hand over an efficient administration when a popular Government assumed office in the State. It was with that objective that the administrator of the State was working. He said the offices to be constructed in the headquarters towns in the State would not be palatial structures but they would be reasonably good buildings.

State Services Federation

The Pro-Vice-Chancellor of Travancore University, Mr. R. Paramesware Panikkar, while inaugurating on August 12 in Trivandrum a Convention of the State Services Association, organised by seven different service associations in the State, asked the State services to keep aloof from the "whims and fancies of those in power politically." He said the services should maintain their independence and efficiency.

Mr. Panikkar said unless the independence and efficiency of the civil services were safeguarded, it would be impossible for any Government to get its orders implemented. He advised the employees to stand together and asset their rights.

Mr. K. N. Kunjukrishna Pillai, Chairman of the Central Industrial Tribunal, Madras, addressing the Convention, said there was no "reason or rhyme in the vast difference" existing between the remuneration of an employee working under the Central Government and his compeer in the State Service. But ordinarily "such a diversity was foreign to the conception of a socialistic pattern of society," he said. At the same time, he told the Government officers that unlike the factory worker, they should not equate work with remuneration, but should work hard having in view the establishment of a welfare State.

The convention decided to form a federation of all the recognized service associations in the State.

The Convention urged the Government to raise the minimum basic salary to Rs. 40 and to increase the dearness allowance. The present minimum basic salary is Rs. 25. It also wanted increase in the dearness allowance with retrospective effect from April, 1955, and also city and town allowances. The convention requested the Government to suitably modify the pay-scales of all employees in view of the increase in cost of living.

Free Medical Service for Gazetted Officers

Gazetted officers and their families in Travancore-Cochin State have become eligible for free medical service from August 15 this year. Non-gazetted employees in the State already enjoy free medical service.

Revised Pay Scales for Transport Staff

The Travancore-Cochine State Government has ordered the revision of the pay scales of the operating mechanical and water transport staff of the State Transport with retrospective effect from April 1955. The revised scale of pay will cost the Government an additional expenditure of Rs. 8 lakhs annually. The revision is in accordance with the recommendations of the one-man inquiry commission appointed by the Government in November, 1954. Mr. K. P. Velu Pillai, who was the sole member of the commission, has already been appointed Special Director of the State Transport to implement the recommendations of the commission.

University Teachers Pay

The Travancore-Cochin Government had expressed the fear that implementation of pay scales proposed by the University Grants Commission would affect the whole basic pay structure of Government servants in the State.

Service Commission Prefers Cyclists

Teenaged girls knowing cycling will be given preference for admission to midwifery class by the State Public Service Commission. Candidates should be either unmarried,

divorced or widowed women. The Public Service Commission's condition for appointment has aroused considerable interest in the State as normally cycling by women is a rare feature in this part of the country.

Uttar Pradesh

Reorganisation of District Administration

The Reorganisation Commissioner of the State Government has found that on an average a District Magistrate has to submit to one authority or another a total of 1,500 returns a year—including annual, monthly and forthnightly returns—on a long list of subjects. He thinks that as many as 1,200 of them can be dispensed with and has recommended their abolition in his report on the District Reorganisation to the Cabinet.

Among the returns which the Collectorate has to submit periodically are: Deaths from the explosion of primus stoves; Rehabilitation of demobbed soldiers: Recovery of dues from the Burma evacuees; Rewards for the destruction of man-eaters; Action taken against people for refusal to salute the National Flag; Births, deaths and marriages of European British subjects; and People convicted under the Bengal Regulation of 1818.

Commensense suggests that topics of this kind call for a report if there is anything to report—and not a periodical return which has to be submitted for most of the time blank.

The Reorganisation Commissioner has also brought out a number of instances where red tape hampers instead of helping the administration. A number of procedural changes have been suggested by the Reorganisation Commissioner intended to cut red tape.

Speeding Development Work

It has been decided that the problems relating to development activities will henceforth be dealt with by a Cabinet Committee presided over by the Chief Minister. This procedure has been devised to eliminate red tape. Announcing this, the State. Development Commissioner, Mr. Govind Narain, told a conference of the officers of the Planning Department, Panchayat Raj etc. on July 16 that the normal procedure if adopted in the case of urgent problems of development programmes, might hamper the progress. According to the new procedure, the zonal officers would forward their suggestions to the Development Commissioner who would submit them to the Cabinet Committee for orders.

Public Service Commission Reports

During the debate in the State Assembly on the Public Service Commission reports for 1952-53 and 1953-54, complaints were made that the State Government had bypassed the recommendations of the Commission.

Referring to the merit system for promotion introduced by the Government, a Praja Socialist member said there were widespread complaints about this system having given rise to favouritism.

Some years ago, the Commission had impressed upon the State Government the desirability of holding the various examinations in English. The State Government insisted on Hindi.

Demotion of Employees

The Commission had also said that for demoting an employee, Government should take the opinion of the Commission as well. Government on the other hand held that such matters were exclusively within their competence and the question of consulting the Commission did not arise. This matter was referred to the Allahabad High Court which gave its verdict in favour of the Commission. The U.P. Government had now appealed to the Supreme Court.

The Chief Minister in his reply deplored the carping critics of the State's administration and the groundless accusation of the Leader of the Opposition against a member of the Commission that he had taken part in canvassing for a Congress candidate in an Assembly by-election.

Services Without Service Rules

The Chief Minister admitted that there were still services which were without

service rules. This was because Government did not want to pursue the wrong practice of framing such rules in a hurry.

He declared: "The slump in the standard should not be blamed on Hindi". "In any case, the fall in the standard of education on the score is only a passing phase. And the things will right themselves as the transition period passes", he added.

He defended the Government officials against the charge of partiality in the matter of promotion of their subordinates.

Unparallelled Powers

Dr. Sampurnanand said the Public Service Commissions in India enjoy more powers than any foreign countries. For example, nowhere does the Commission deal, as here, with not only the recruitment of candidates but also their promotion, he added.

He said: "In a matter affecting recruitment to our services, we accept almost always the recommendations of the Commission. But there are occasions — though few — when we have to reject its recommendations.

"And this we do when we must. For after all, it is we who are responsible for running the administration of the State — a responsibility no Government can shirk."

Officers Asked To Be Courteous

The State Government in a circular had regretted lack of courtesy among the officials towards the public. The circular adds that there have been instances of failure on the part of some officers to extend even reasonable courtesy to the persons meeting them. It says: District Magistrates, and Superintendents of Police must, in particular, realise that in view of the important position they hold their responsibility in this matter is perhaps even heavier than that of the officers of other departments.

The circular emphasises that polite behaviour with the public often opens the way for smooth working and better relations between them and different departments of Governments.

An appeal is made to the good sense of the officers to conduct themselves well so that their behaviour does not give rise to any justifiable criticism or resentment.

West Bengal

Old Audit Reports

Mr. Bankim Mukherjee, Communist, said in the State Assembly on August 22 that for more than one year and a half, the Public Accounts Committee of West Bengal had not met. Mr. Mukherjee submitted that the Audit Report for 1951-52 had been circulated long ago to the members, but for nearly two years it had not been discussed by the Committee. He also wanted to know the present position in regard to Audit Reports for 1952-53 and for 1953-54. He also said that the audit report for 1954-55 had come to the Government and wanted to know why these reports were not being circulated to the members of the Assembly. Speaker, Mr. Sailo Kumar Mukherjee assured the member that he would enquire into the matter.

Increased D. A. For Employees

About 1,18,000 employees of the West Bengal Government, excluding the police, drawing a basic salary up to Rs. 250 per month will receive an increase in their dearness allowance by Rs. 2 from August, 1956. The Government's decision to increase the D. A. followed representations from low-paid Government servants for giving them some relief in view of the prevailing high prices of foodstuffs. The members of the police force, numbering about 30,000 belonging to these pay groups, were given increased emoluments last year.

Confederation Of Central Government Employees

Second Pay Commission Demanded

A Confederation of nine All-India unions of the Central Government employees was formed in New Delhi on August 16 at a convention of the Central Government employees. The members of the Confederation include the P. & T Workers' Union, Central P. W. D. Workers' Union, Civil Aviation Workers' Union, Indian Metallurgical Non-Gazetted Staff Union, Survey of India Class III Staff Union, Indian Metallurgical Workshop Workers' Union, Government of India attached and Subordinate Officers' Union and the Income-tax Ministerial Staff Association.

About 150 delegates from Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and other places attended the convention. Mr. Sarangdhar Das, M. P., who presided, expressed the hope that the Railwaymen's Federation and the Defence Worker's Union would also become members of the confederation shortly.

Mr. Das urged the Central Government to improve the working conditions of its lower grade employees. Unless they were given a living wage, he said, they could not be expected to put their heart in the work of implementing the Second Plan.

Mr. Sarangdhar Das was elected president and Mr. Madhusudan general secretary of the confederation.

Demands

The Confederation demanded the appointment of a second pay commission to fix "living wages and to revise the entire pay structure as prevailing in other democratic countries and to reduce the difference between the minimum and maximum salaries of public servants". The convention urged that dearness allowance should be in accordance with the price index.

A resolution demanded "removal of discrimination between the Secretariat and non-Secretariat services". Four advance increments for lower division clerks in subordinate offices were sought. It was stated that these increments had been given to similar clerks in the Secretariat.

Mr. Sarangdhar Das and Mr. Raja Ram Shastri, M. P.s, addressed the convention.

The Objects of Confederation

Mr. Sarangdhar Das, M. P., as Chairman of the Preparatory Committee of the Confederation of Central Government Employees, had said on August 14 that the formation of such a Confederation would not only greatly facilitate the negotiations between the Government and its employees, but also help to bring about maximum efficiency in the various departments and Ministries in the Government of India. Owing to the absence of a common organization several unions were facing great difficulties in representing the common problems of Government employees as a whole, especially in problems which required the sanction of more than one Ministry.

Demands Day

Over 1,000 Central Government employees marched in processions to Minto Park, New Delhi, on August 25, where their Confederation had organized a rally. A resolution, demanding the appointment of a Second Pay Commission to ensure a living wage and reasonable working conditions, was passed. The Confederation of the Central Government Employees also demanded for advance increments for all Central Governments employees as a measure of relief. It urged that there should be no discrimination between the employees in the Central Secretariat and other offices. Another resolution suggested that Delhi be declared an A Class city in view of the "enormous increase in its population".

M. P.'s Support

Addressing the workers, Mr. Raja Ram Shastri, M. P., said that in order to find funds to meet the demands of Government employees, some of the concessions given to MPs should be curtailed as they were already receiving a monthly allowance of Rs. 400 and a daily allowance of Rs. 21. As rents of MPs' houses had been reduced by 25 percent and they were already entitled to free rail

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Recruitment Through Qualifying Tests

The Governor of Bombay, Dr. Harekrushna Mehtab, who is also the Chancellor of the Bombay University, in his convocation address, delivered on August 20, suggested that the Government should prescribe qualifying tests other than university examinations for employment. The Government, he said, was the largest employing agency in the country. Since it insisted upon university degree for recruitment to all its services, it was natural for the universities to fall in line and supply the needs of the students.

U. S. Example

He pointed out that in the United States of America purely administrative posts were filled in only by those who had public administration as their subject in the universities. It was for that reason that many universities had specialised in the teaching of public administration. This example could be followed in India if the employing agencies laid down tests other than university degrees for recruitment.

Dr. Mahtab stated that the State was gradually becoming so all-absorbing that it required a large number of persons for State services in various spheres. It was for the State, therefore, to help the universities to open faculties for training personnel to fill up different kinds of posts.

Undue Importance

He said the Government gave undue importance to degrees while selecting candidates even for posts such as organisers of cottage industries. If the qualifications of those recruited to all-India services like the Indian Administrative Service and the Indian Police Service were carefully analysed, it would be found that the distinctions they had secured in the university examinations had stood them in good stead. Otherwise, a first class M. Sc. in Physics or Chemistry would not normally be considered specially suitable for the post of District Magistsate or of a District Superintendent of Police.

U. P. Chief Minister's Support

Dr. Sampurnanand, Chief Minister of U. P., speaking in Allahabad on August 26 said the possession of a university degree for getting a government job should be abolished. This would save a lot of national wealth and time, he added.

Premium on Lack of Education

Mr. S. Varadachari, retired judge of the Supreme Court, speaking in Tiruchirepalli on August 23, criticised the report of the Ramaswami Mudaliar Committee recommending that university degrees were not required for high Government jobs. He expressed his "surprise and regret" that educationsts had not given the report the attention it deserves. The gist of the report was that except for very high posts no university education or degree was necessary. There was no harm in saying that. But the other part of the report which sought to place the university-educated men at a disadvantage was really "dangerous", Mr. Varadachari said.

He continued there was a feeling in some quarters that a person with a degree was too proud to apply himself assiduously to a job he considered to be beneath his dignity. Young men were told that in a State wedded to a socialistic, class-less society, they should become workers. But it would be an unfortunate mistake to put disadvantages in the ways of persons who have received a liberal university education.

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travel, he opposed the proposal to provide them with telephones at State expense, allow them the free use of some postal services and grant them air travel facilities.

Mr. Shastri believed that the implementation of the second Five Year Plan depended on satisfied Government employees. Their demands, he added, were not unreasonable.

Mr. Choitram Gidwani, MP, said that the socialist pattern of society could not be achieved if workers' just demands were not met. Government employees could be "honest if they are properly fed."

Similar Rallies were also held in other Centres all over the country.

Making Income Tax Department More Efficient

The Government of India propose to appoint a high-power body to codify the income-tax laws in order to make them "effective and simple". This was announced by the Minister for Revenue and Civil Expenditure, Mr. M. C. Shah, in the Lok Sabha on July 20, intervening in the debate on the P.S.P. member, Mr. H.V. Kamath's resolution demanding the appointment of a commission to inquire into the working of the Income-Tax Department. Thc resolution was rejected by 67 votes to 15.

Mr. Shah said that Government had appointed a high official of the Income-Tax Department who was with the Income-Tax Investigation Commission, to look into the working of the department and suggest methods of reorganisation and standardisation of the department's work. He had also been asked to suggest the abolition of such procedures as might cause delay. His report was expected by the end of the month (July).

Government had sent three officers of the department to Sweden, Japan and the United States to study the working of the income-tax department there.

Plugging Loopholes

Mr. Shah said Profeseor Kaldor's estimate that there was evasion of income-to the tune of Rs. 200 to Rs. 300 crores in India had to be taken with a great deal of caution, as it was admittedly based on slender statistics. Government, however, were considering what measures should be adopted to detect evasion. Every step was being taken to tighten up the machinery of the Income-Tax Department and to plug loopholes in the Act.

More Officers

Government had recently recruited more income-tax officers. As against 550 officers in 1945, there were now 1200 ocffiers.

Mr. Shah declared : "I am sure that we have practically turned the corner and we will be in a position to show better results in a year or two.

"We are trying our level best to see that all arrears of income-tax cases are cleared. We want that no cases or appeals should be kept penning for more than a year."

Corruption Exists

Replying to the charges of corruption in the department, Mr. Shah declared : "I admit there is corruption. We are trying our level best to do away with corruption. Though we are not 100 percent successful, I may inform the House, we have been successful to a certain extent. Six officers have been dismissed very recently and I invite all members to supply me with any information they may have and I can assure the House the matter will be taken up immediately to its logical end." Mr. Shah said he had told the officers of the department individually and at meetings during his tour that they should be very cautions and should not give room for complaints of harassment. It was proposed to have more Public Relations Officers to guide the small assessees."

Replying to the debate, Mr. Kamath said that if a commission, as he had suggested in the resolution, were appointed the Income-Tax Department would become more efficient and collect more income-tax, thus avoiding the necessity to impose more taxes during the Second Plan period. The Minister had admitted that there was inefficiency and corruption and there were heavy arrears, yet he was not proposed to appoint the Commission.

Mr. B. Ramchandra Reddy, an independent member, said there was something fundamentally wrong with the training of the officers of the department. The high percentage of tax avasion did no go to prove the efficiency of the income-tax administration.

Leave Sanctioned For Dead Man

An ailing officer of the Travancore-Cochin Government got an extension of leave a few days after his death. The State Government announced the extension of leave to Mr. M. K. Paunni Pillai, a veterinary officer, in the State Gazette in August. But the officer had died before the Government extended his leave.

Reorganisation Of A.-I. Services

States Oppose New Services

A high-power committee, consisting of Secretaries of the various Ministries of the Government of India is likely to be set up by the Union Government to reorganise the services and to examine the question suggesting changes in the All-India services. The former Chief Secretary of Bihar, Mr. L. P. Singh, is likely to serve as Secretary of the Committee.

The Union Home Minister has recently told the Lok Sabha that the services have now to cater for big iudustrial undertakings, for scientific work, for technical ventures and enterprises. So they have to be remodelled to a certain extent. How to do that, how to reorganise the services, how to maintain the principle of interchangeability, how to maintain a distinction in the matter of emoluments, all these are questions which call for scrutiny. The committee will report on what changes are necessary in the recruitment training, etc. for the Central services, so as to make them suitable for the present needs.

A.- I. Educational Service

Mr. K. L. Shrimali, Deputy Minister for Education, told the Lok Sabha on August 22 that some State Governments are not in favour of the Government of India's proposal institute an All-India Educational Service. However, he added, replies from to a majority of the State Governments in regard to the proposal were still awaited. The Deputy Minister said that the old All-India Educational Service was discontinued in 1921 after the transfer of education from the list of Central subjects to the State list. The Government of India had recently initiated a large number of schemes in the field of education and felt that the constitution of an All-India Educational Service would considerably help in developing national policies in regard to education.

No A.-I. Judicial Service

The Minister for Home Affairs, Mr. B. N. Datar, informed the Lok Sabha on August 6 that the State Governments were generally not in favour of the proposal to have an all-India Judicial Service.

Emergency Recruitment To I. A. S.

The Union Public Service Commission have now decided to hold the Indian Administrative Services (Special Recruitment) Examination on December 28, 1956 instead of September 1956 as originally notified.

The Minister for Home Affairs informed the Lok Sabha on August 27 that the exact number of I. A. S. Officers needed by the different State Governments and the Central Government during the next five years was being ascertained and would be known before the appointments under the Special Recruitment Scheme are made. It was not possible to say at this stage if the actual requirements would exceed or fall short of the estimated number already announced, the Minister said.

New Rule To Check Bigamv

The Government of India have issued a new rule in regard to women Government servents. It says, "no female Government servants shall marry any person who has a wife living without first obtaining the permission of Government." Government Servants' conduct Rules had already banned the marriage of a public servant while his first wife was alive.

Liquor and Government Officials

Replying to a question whether the Government had issued instructions or proposed to frame rules prohibiting Government servants from taking liquor, the Minister for Home Affairs told the Lok Sabha on August 27 that instructions had been issued that Government servants should refrain from serving alcoholic drinks at official or semi-official parties and also avoid doing so, so far as possible, at private parties. It had not been considered necessary to make a rule for the purpose in the Service Rules, he said.

Railway Administration "Most Tyrannical"

Railwaymen all over India will work for lesser hours during a week and enjoy longer periods of rest as the result of passing by the Lok Sabha of the Indian Railways (Amendment) Bill, which was passed by the Rajya Sabha nearly three years ago and which seeks to implement the Rajadhyaksha award.

During the debate on the Bill, about whose provisions, however, there were no two opinions in the House, Mr. Frank Anthony, the Anglo-Indian leader and a nominated member of the House, made a strong condemnation of the Railway administration which he described as the "most tyrannical" of any in the world.

He charged the Railway Ministry with "cheating" the workers of their overtime by fixing different criteria of calculating the same for different categories of workers, and at the same time denying it to the running staff which constituted the backbone of the entire Railway system in the country.

"Out-Britishing British"

Mr. Frank Anthony charged the Railway administration with "out-Britishing the British" in perpetrating colonial bureaucracy in the administration and denying the railwaymen their due rights, especially in the masters of hours of work.

The Railway Board, he said, was the last stronghold of colonialism in the country. Even the Railway Minister was powerless against their fiats because the Minister was good to the point of being weak. The Deputy Railway Minister was almost a "filing clerk" of these high Railway officials and dared not change a full stop or a comma in a measure sponsored by these "Grand Moghuls and Shahenshahs" of the Railway administration which was the most bureaucratic and reactionary in the world. The railway Minister was being led by the nose by these tyrannical gentlemen, Mr. Frank Anthony added.

Praise For Indian Statistics

Mr. Ghaffori Ashtiani, Director of Statistics, Iranian Railway, said in Hyderabad on August 22 that he placed India next to Britain and the U. S. in the matter of mathematics and statistics. "So far I have not come across any country in Asia with such an up-to-date record of an properly maintained statistics", he said. Mr. Ghaffori was on a tour of India studying the statistical methods and procedures in the Indian Railways.

Remarks Against Auditor-General

Certain remarks made against the Auditor-General of India by the then Finance Minister, Mr. C. D. Deshmukh during the debates in the Lok Sabha on the Life Insurance Corporation Bill in May have been ordered to be expunged from the official records by the Speaker on a representation made by the Auditor-General.

The remarks were made by Mr. Deshmukh over the question of the audit of the Life Insurance Corporation by the Auditor-General. The Bill provided only for private audit and not by the Auditor-General. The Auditor-General had circulated a note on this subject to members. The Finance Minister had taken objection to it and had made certain remarks during the course of the debate.

The words to be expunged are (i) "Shall we say, in desperation", (ii) "The Comptroller and Auditor-General should be like a ghost haunting the debates of the House"; and (iii) "Certainly, as the Hon. Member said, if the Comptroller and Auditor-General wanted to proclaim his views from the housetops, there was nothing to stop him. But, that is precisely what he failed to do. He did not go to housetops, but he went to the basement in order to circulate these notes; that is my objection on the ground of constitutional propriety."

Tribute to Indian Civil Service

Mr. John Strachey, the British Labour leader, who made a two-month intensive study of India's economy, is of the view

that the accomplishment of the Second Plan would materially depend on the necessary supply of administrative skills. He approvingly quotes Prof. Galbraith's view that the I. C. S. is the "best administrative apparatus outside Whitehall" and thinks that it is being replenished and sustained by recruitments to the I. A. S.

There is corruption and incompetence, no doubt, in the clerical grade and in the business world. But there is no danger of the Indian administration "collapsing into a see of corruption" as is sometimes suggested by people who know a great deal about India that no longer exists, Mr. Strachey says.

Overseas Leave and Payment In Sterling Go

The Government of India have issued an order affecting certain monetary benefits enjoyed by a few Indian officers belonging to former Secretary of State Services. The order terminates passage benefits, overseas pay, and the concession to draw leave salaries in sterling to such officers as are still eligible for them. About a dozen officers are expected to be affected by the decision to terminate passage benefits, while those affected by the overseas pay are only two or three.

A few Indian members recruited to the Indian Civil Service prior to 1924 have been availing themselves of the passage benefits for which they are eligible under rule 12 of the Superior Civil Services rules. "The Government of India are of the opinion", says a communication to the State Governments, "that this (passage) benefit, so far as it relates to officers of Indian domicile, is inconsistent with the changed circumstances which now exist in the country."

As regards drawing of leave salary in sterling, the Government of India felt that the option, in so far as it relates to Indian officers, to draw salary outside India in pounds, subject to the maxima and minima prescribed under rules, was also not consistent with our national dignity.

Corruption Cases

Mr. B. N. Datar, Minister for Home Affairs, informed the Rajya Sabha on August 16 that 27 cases of corruption concerning gazetted officers were reported to the Administrative Vigilance Division of the Government of India by the Ministries, including the Supply and Purchase Department between April and June, 1956.

Departmental Punishment

The Special Police Establishment of the Union Ministry of Home Affairs secured departmental punishment in 15 cases during July this year. Those involved included six gazetted and five non-gazetted Government servants. One non-gazetted officer was removed from service.

S. P. E. Suspensions

The suspensions of employees of the Delhi Special Police Establishment in the years 1954, 1955 and 1956 (upto July) were 1, 5 and 2, respectively.

Official Language Commission

Mr. B. N. Datar, Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs, informed the Lok Sabha on August 22 that the Government of India were considering whether the report of the Official Language Commission should be published now or it be referred to a Committee of Parliament as provided in the Constitution and then the report along with the recommendations of the Parliamentary Committee be published. The Minister said the Commission had submitted its report to the Government which was considering it.

A.-I. Taxation Council

The Union Government propose to set up an All-India Taxation Council soon after the reorganisation of the States. The Council will be aided by a Taxation Research Bureau to co-ordinate tax policy, tax legislation and tax administration in the various States. The Union Finance Minister will be the Chairman and the Finance and the Local Self-Government Minister of the States will be its members. The Council will have jurisdiction over all tax matters including those of the local bodies in the various States.

Re-Examination of India's Administrative System-I

With Special Reference to Administration of Government's Industrial and Commercial Enterprises

By **Paul H. Appleby,**

Consultant in Public Administration, The Ford Foundation.

I. Introduction

Confidence and Concern

Intervals of about two years between three successive visits to India provide a perspective in which achievements of the new nation appear with a clarity perhaps otherwise not possible. The achievements thus visible are enormous, of a size and quality probably never before or elsewhere approached together.

The democratic character of India does not permit the ruthless disregard of immediate mass interest that has characterized efforts elsewhere which otherwise might be regarded as similar. India has been building and serving democratic values while at the same engaging in a monumental programme of economic development.

> **In view of the interest aroused in the second report of Mr. P. H. Appleby, we are publishing extensive excerpts from it. Pressure on space compels us to do it in parts. A summary of the full Report also appears in this issue.**
>
> **Editor.**

The two Five-Year Plans have been brilliantly conceived in their analyses of needs and their balancing of values. Most of the programmatic fields have been well directed and the Community Development programme as a whole has been successful far beyond any reasonable expectations.

Yet in the face of these achievements one finds in the Parliament, in the Press, in the Universities and in many conversations that citizens of pretension, cultivation and influence voice criticisms which tend to suggest a sense of failure and the lack of confidence. Criticisms that would be appropriate enough as counsels of improvement (which is ever to be had and always desirable) are made in such sweeping and extravagant terms, and in terms so little recognizing the nature and means to administrative improvement, as to be damaging and threatening of increasing damage to India's great march forward. One is moved to observe that India's greatest need is for a sense of certainty concerning her own success.

It seems necessary to say these things as an introduction to this paper in order that criticisms to be uttered here may be properly understood. Here many vigorous and harsh things will be said. They do not reflect any general, adverse judgment about what is going on here. They are not criticisms which should be publicly made or publicly discussed. They constitute an intra-organizational discussion of essentially technical sort. For those not experienced in and responsibly associated with governmental administration their effect may be largely contrary to their intent.

Subject to such qualifications, it may be observed that the great achievements of recent years have been made beyond the capacity of the Indian administrative system. By working key personnel very excessive hours, by giving special attention to a very disproportionate number of transactions, by stubborn persistence of programmatic officials in the face of frustration, great results have been achieved. There is an early limit, however, to what may be done in this fashion. It puts too much reliance on a very small number of individuals, whereas for a much larger achievement reliance must be on a greatly

improved organizational performance of systematic character.

What is said here in criticism applies, in the writer's opinion, to the whole administrative process. It would be unrealistic, however, to assume that reform of sufficient dimensions can be effected rapidly enough throughout the government. The present method, mildly improved, may be expected to produce rather satisfactory results in programmes already functioning pretty well.

The greatest strain on the Government will arise in the area of greatest novelty and newest emphasis, namely, the area of industrial and commercial enterprises. If success is to be attained in this field by the old method of shifting attention of key personnel to an almost exclusive special handling of these new matters, what has been done will become undone, and what is newly to be done will be found to require much more than the personnel resources can make at all possible. Therefore, when procedures are described in general terms and criticisms are so made as to apply to every part of government, it is intention in this paper to focus these remarks chiefly and finally on the new and special problems indicated in the paper's sub-title. It will be easier, and more acceptable, to adopt new procedures for activities which are largely new than to try to make over the long-established governmental organs and methods.

The Problem Realized

There is widespread, if rather vague, realization of the need somehow to differentiate administration of the industrial and commercial enterprises from administration of the established programmes of the more or less historical ministries. There has been considerable public discussion of the need. Within the government and peripheral to it, many papers have been written and a number of seminar discussions have been held and reported. A good deal of all this has reflected wasteful thinking, doctrinnaire arguments, and confusion. Distinctions between "companies," "corporations," "executive ministries" (such as railways), "commissions" and "valley authorities" have been belabored and strained. Many words have been written rather pointlessly about centralization and decentralization. Pages have been written trying to interpret the "General Motors" structure, the "mother-hen conception," even about "line" and "staff" terms which have little present meaning in India. This has involved a hodgepodge of references to a hodgepodge of more or less relevant literature, largely foreign and not well understood.

The decision whether to establish af corporation or a company or an executive ministry is not fundamental and determining one, that a board of directors is o itself no answer, that the "mother-hen" conception is neither an absolute nor altogether silly, and that to espouse a "pragmatic" approach is not to say that we cannot do well by giving thought and making plans for the great, necessary expansion ahead. There is now in India sufficient awareness of the patterns and lack of patterns abroad for the immediate purpose, enough experience here in enough varieties of forms to point to proper general judgments after a little further general consideration. Solutions appropriate here must be developed by Indians, in terms of the Indian context and very much in terms of the Indian urgency.

The Concept of Autonomy

Much of the confusion in theoretical discussions here turns on concern about need for "autonomy" for the industrial and commercial enterprises and about a presumed conflict between that need and the need for public responsibility and governmental control. It should go without saying that true autonomy is out of the question and not seriously proposed by any informed person. In democratic government, government can always and should always be able to intervene in any matter really important to the government. **Advocacy of autonomy simply highlights the need to educate responsible top organs of government in the ordinances of self-denial which would restrict their intervention to really important con-**

cerns. It may be flatly asserted that in spite of the wide variety of practices in such matters, including very high delegation of decision-making to organizations described as autonomous, no democratic government in the world has been seriously impeded in its real needs for fundamental controls. The fears have been many and continuous, but the record nowhere discloses a clear instance in which government was undesirably without the power it needed. **The writer of this paper believes that there is no danger whatever that grants of power to Indian enterprises will be too great. On the centrary, the danger is that the government and Parliament will be much too fearful and will grant insufficient "autonomy".**

In this paper the word autonomy is used to mean a wholly unprecedented degree of delegation of authority to make decisions. The fear with which the word is used is not due to insistence on its literal meaning so much as to the feeling that delegation of responsibility somehow impairs the responsibility of the delegating body or individual. The fact that the reverse is true has nowhere been so cogently elucidated as in the writings of Chester I. Barnard, the philosopher rara avis among American business executives. **Barnard shows that delegation not only increases the total responsibility of an institution but enlarges the responsibility of those who delegate it. One of his dicta that specifically points to the root of India's administrative problem is an insistence on the avoidance of the making of decisions which should be made by others—notably by subordinates. Here, traditional practice is so far in the other direction that there has been a monumental failure to develop in subordinates the capacity needed to accept and use delegated responsibility.**

Meaning of Subordinates

Application of these remarks cannot be well considered without some explanation of the meaning of "subordinates" particularly in the Indian context. A deputy secretary is, of course, subordinate to secretary, an under secretary subordinate to a deputy secretary, and so on. But this tells only part of the story. **The secretary of a ministry is actually, in a more real sense, subordinate to the lowest ranking officer in Finance, Home Affairs or the Planning Commission, who writes a "note" on a proposal referred by him to Finance, Home Affairs or the Planning Commission for approval.** In other words, all personnel who give attention to a matter in a reviewing capacity are functioning more in government wide terms than the most eminent official in a specialized, programmatic ministry, and all such personnel are, therefore, for the specific purpose and in a special sense the "superiors" of the higher-ranking official whose proposal is being reviewed. It should not be strange, then, to discover that **these subordinates do not have the faintest idea of how to act in the capacity of superiors.**

It is a major purpose of the present paper to explore this phenomenon of review as central to the problem under consideration. It is part of the thesis of this paper that **more delegation should be made to the "subordinate" programme agencies, and this thesis means among other things that there should be much less review by other ministries and other governmental organs.**

For purposes of introduction it remains only to emphasize the view that there is special validity particularly in India and particularly just now, in the application of the conception of autonomy to the government's industrial and commercial undertakings. To change administrative practices in this single area is easier than to effect a thorough-going, government-wide change. A pattern of change already has been initiated in this area. The novelty of the operations of these enterprises in general is so great as both to permit and to require change in control methods. The difficulty in the way of making such enterprises quickly successful in India is so great as to argue vehemently for the removal of

(*Continued on next page*)

International Civil Service

U.N. Secretary General's Suggestion

The U. N. Secretary-General, Mr. Dag Hammarskjold, in a statement to the Economic and Social Council, which began its debate on the economic and social activities of the United Nations and the specialised agencies in Geneva on August 9, urged that international civil servants, recruited through the United Nations, should be made available to newly-independent countries to help provide them with necessary administrative staff.

The Secretary-General said in addition to international civil servants belonging to the U. N. in one capacity or another, he was conscious of the need for another type of international civil servant who would be integrated into the administrations of newly-emancipated countries. He pointed out that before their independence, these countries had foreign administrative staff, and that after the departure of the latter they had to face the urgent problems of modern life without the means of speedily recruiting at home the administrative staff required to tackle those problems.

Since the direct recruiting of foreign civil servants might raise questions of divided loyalty, and was not an ideal solution, Mr. Hammarskjold continued, it would be desirable to make available to recently-emancipated countries, personnel who had been recruited through the United Nations who, therefore, would have a more definition international status.

He observed that the General Assembly more than once, had noted that the nations

Mr. Dag Hammarskjold,
U. N. Secretary-General.

which were sufficiently mature for self-determination did not possess the administrative staff to use profitable the financial assistance given to them and so bring about the necessary conditions to improve their living standards.

(Continued from previous page)

such procedural difficulties as add to the problem.

State of Emergency

India is in fact in a State of emergency quite comparable to the condition that would obtain if the nation was at war. Its success in this emergency depends upon rapid decision-making, rapid action. The present emergency is most acute on the front where new enterprises are in the building. As in war, the emergency dictates the establishment of procedures that have a maximum potential of acceleration consistent with the maintenance of democratic values.

(To be Continued)

U. N. Administrative Tribunal

Mr. R. Venkataraman, M.P., represented India at the U. N. Administrative Tribunal session starting on August 12 in New York.

The tribunal hears employees' appeals against the U. N. Administration and deals with questions relating to staff appointments and dismissals.

Interest in the working of the tribunal has been heightened following recent cases of American allegations against some U.S. personnel on grounds of security.

Public Administration In Neighbouring Countries

Indonesia

Corruption Charges Against Ministers

Dr. Sastroamidjojo, Indonesian Premier, told Parilament in Jakarta on August 15 that the Army had tried to detain Mr. Ruslan Abdul Ghani, Foreign Minister, a few hours before he was due to leave for the London talks on the Suez Canal. The Premier's statement followed a conference earlier in the day with members of his Cabinet and Government party leaders on an Army investigation into alleged corruption.

Indonesian newspapers, charging a wave of corruption in high Government circles, had hinted on August 14 that Premier Ali Sastroamidjojo's Government might be in danger and the Foreign Minister might have to be recalled from the Suez conference in London. The newspaper, *Raya*, charged that large bribes had been paid to secure Government posts for unqualified persons. It also claimed that some Government funds had been "usurped."

Several prominent political figures were reported arrested by the Army, which appeared to be pushing the anti-corruption drive.

According to this newspaper report, Mr. Abdul Ghani himself was placed under house arrest the night before his departure and questioned by security police. Dr. Sastroamidjojo reportedly intervened to secure his release for the London trip. Colonel H. Kawilarang, the Army Commander in West Jawa, said that he had ordered the Foreign Minister detained in connection with a confession by Lie Hok Tai, Vice-Director of the State Printing House, who was now in a Jakarta jail.

Raya said that the police were holding the Director of the Printing House, Mr. Piet de Quelioe, also for questioning.

Official Government sources refused to confirm or deny the allegations of corruption levelled at Mr. Abdul Ghani by Jakarta newspapers. They, however, admitted that the President, Dr. Sukarno, and the Prime Minister, Dr. Sastroamidjojo, had a long talk on August 14 about the arrest. The Premier subsequently called in the Attorney General.

The Indonesian Parliament on August 14 demanded a statement from the Government on the charges against the Foreign Minister.

Pakistan

Miss Jinnah's Charge Against Bureaucracy

Miss Fatima Jinnah, sister of Quaid-e-Azam Jinnah in an Idd Day message on July 13 said that bureaucracy in Pakistan continued to haunt the minds of the people. "Unless this basic question of assigning to bureaucracy its proper place and reorientating its outlook and methods is squarely faced there can be no hope of the country advancing along the path of democratic progress", she added.

Miss Jinnah said, to the misfortune of their country certain unhealthy tendencies and harmful practices had crept into their public life soon after the demise of the father of the nation, the Quaid-e-Azam.

"One of the tendencies which has done great harm is the prevalence of the bureaucratic spirit which remained as a legacy of foreign rule; it overstepped even the limits within which it worked in pre-independence days, although it should have no place in a free independent State. The results are before us. Even the adoption of republican constitution has not cleansed public life of the baneful effects of bureaucracy. Like a spectre it continues to haunt the minds of the people. Their liberties are still in jeopardy, their voice remains stifled, the staggering problems under which they groan do not attract serious and sympathetic consideration, the attitude of neglect and contempt towards the people persists. There

is an unending vicious circle of machinations to retain vested interests and positions of power," Miss Jinnah said.

Federal Reorganisation Committee

The Pakistan Government on August 1 announced the setting up of a "Federal Reorganization Committee to go into the question of reorganization of the structure of the Central Government in the light of the new constitution". The committee's terms of reference are to "examine the impact of the constitution on the functions and structure of the Central Government, particularly with reference to the distribution of powers as between the Centre and provinces and recommend changes necessary in the organization of federal government as a result thereof." Mr. G. Ahmed, officer on special duty in the Cabinet Secretariat, is the chairman of the six-man committee. The other five members are the secretaries of the Ministries of Defence, Commerce, Finance and Law and the Establishment Officer in the Cabinent Secretariat.

East Pakistan Corruption Enquiry

A three-man committee, headed by a former judge of the Dacca High Court, Mr. Justice M. Ibrahim, was set up by the East Pakistan Government on August 1 to inquire into allegations of corruption against officials and non-officials of the province. The Committee has as its members, Mr. Moazzam Hossain, Chairman of the Public Service Commission, and Mr. Hamid Ali, Chief Secretary, East Pakistan Government. The Chief Minister, Mr. Abu Hussain Sarkar, said in Dacca on August 3 that the functions and powers of the committee would be decided at the next meeting of the provincial Cabinet. The committee, he said, would most likely begin its work by inquiring into allegations already on the Government's files. Action on the Committee's reports, if *prima facie* cases were made out, would be entrusted to the Anti-Corruption Department of the Government.

Asked whether the Committee would be asked to investigate allegations of corruption against some ex-Ministers he observed: "I shall be the first to submit myself to investigation".

Persia

Blue Prints But no Dam

The London "Times" recently wrote that there was a natural tendency among Iranian officials to deprecate the Washington inquiry into alleged waste of dollar aid supplied to Iran since 1951. Mention had been made in the Washington inquiry of Iran's ill-starred Karaj dam project, one of her largest national schemes, first conceived by Krupps before the war, since studied and restudied by French, Swiss, American, and Swedish consultants, but still hardly beyond the drawing board stage. At first U. S. experts recommended a 10 year construction programme to absorb Teheran's beggars and unemployed. Then, when evidence of speedy development became politically important, a building programme of less than four years was substituted. Then doubts arose whether the dam site lay in a volcanic region liable to tremors; further doubts arose on the relative merits of one large dam or several smaller dams, and finally the whole scheme foundered (as they are very liable to do in Iran) on a clash of personalities between officials entrusted with the dam construction and the Director of the National Development Agency.

Since than all the associated factors have altered radically, so that Iran is left with an encyclopaedia of blue-prints, but no dam.

This and similar projects involving U. S. aid or loans on a large scale have encountered the instinctive opposition of the ruling class, largely composed or landowners and wealthy marchants, who perhaps sense a speeding of their own distolution in the economic revolution inherent in the national development plans.

The corruption, the inefficiency, the chronic procrastination characteristic of the country, coupled with intrigue and sychophantism, make Iran a difficult terrain for those who would do it good; but rarely did a country stand in greater need of having good done to it, concluded the London "Times".

Interim Master Plan For Greater Delhi

Delhi's new Master Plan, prepared by the newly created Town Planning Organisation of the Union Health Ministry, was made public on August 27. With the help of more than two dozen models, the Union Health Minister, Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, Delhi's Development Minister, Mr. Brahm Prakash, and a team of town planners explained the Interim General Plan, or I. G. P. as it is called for convenience, for Greater Delhi, to the Press on that day.

The I. G. P. has already received the general approval of the Prime Minister, at whose instance, the planning of the Capital was taken up. The Union Health Minister said the Prime Minister had been taking special interest in the proper development of Delhi which had lately shown alarming signs of haphazard growth. She said steps were being taken to develop Delhi into a modern Capital, and that the interim plan would be put into effect soon.

Mr. Brahm Prakash pointed out that the Interim General Plan was meant only as a guide for the physical development of the Greater Delhi area before a comprehensive plan for the whole region is developed. He said Greater Delhi would spread over about 300 sqr. miles and that it was the objective of the Plan that at no spot should the density of the population go beyond 200 persons per acre. The major proposals were based on a basic premise—distribution of population in order to achieve a logical and balanced density pattern. This could be brought about by a great improvement in communications.

The Plan was based on the calculation that the population of Delhi would rise to about 30 lakhs in the next few years. Mr. Brahm Prakash said the population of the Capital which had been rising by about 1 lak annually was now 21 laks.

The Plan, Mr. Brahm Prakash said, was already in operation. It was a continuous process which was likely to take 10 years to complete. When the I. G. P. is fully implemented it will change the face of Old Delhi and New Delhi and their environs.

The I. G. P. has already been submitted to the Delhi Development (Provisional) Authority. Mr. Girjapati Mukerji, Chairman of the Improvement Trust of Delhi, is also the Secretary of Development Authority and Chairman of Town Planning Organisation in the Union Health Ministry.

According to Mr. Mukerji the draft Plan was only a town planner's vision of How Greater Delhi should develop in the next few decades; its final shape would depend to a large extent on its financial implications and the agency that would ultimately be entrusted with its implementation in the future set-up of Delhi. The Plan is expected to be finalised by the end of the year, he said.

The following is a comprehensive summary of the Interim General Plan for Greater Delhi :—

The present Secretariat in New Delhi is to remain the nucleous of Central Government around which other Government offices will be located. Their extension will be confined to the Queensway.

The area between Queensway and India Gate will be reserved for developing a National Culture Centre.

The Old Secretariat site, at present accommodating offices of the Delhi State Government, is quite suitable for further expansion of Goverment offices in that area.

The site of the proposed Defence G. H. Q. near the Central Secretariat could, with advantage, be located in the south-western part of the urban area, preferably in the Cantonment area itself.

Connaught Place to remain as the main shopping centre of the metropolis with its commercial, recreational and retail activities. It is proposed to enlarge this area, upto Keeling Road and a little beyond, and to relieve it of all through traffic.

Old city centre to be redeveloped in two distinct parts—commercial and wholesale business between Chandni Chowk and Khari Baoli, and the financial and retail area in Chandni Chowk.

Chandni Chowk to be redeveloped eventually as a grand promenade from where all vehicular traffic should be excluded. It is aimed to create architecturally an Indian bazar with landscape plazas, side-walk cafes and reflecting pools. The present bazar will give way to new one with "side-walks, pavement cafess and reflcting pools and fountains—an explanade free from all vcehicular traffic." A parking place for cars will be provided behind the shops.

In the days of the Moghul Emperor Shahjahan a Canal had run through the Chandni Chowk.

Green belts separating the industrial areas from the residential colonies have been recommended.

Six community shopping centres are proposed to cater to the needs of the new residential communities. They are: (1) North of Old Secretariat, (2) At the junction of Shankar Road and Pusa Road, (3) At the junction of Ring Road and Najafgarh Road, (4) South-West of Vinay Nagar at the Outer Ring Road, (5) North of Kalkaji, (6) Shahdara area.

Industrial

It is proposed to have four planned industrial districts, namely: (1) Rohtak Road for storage and and light industry, (2) Najafgarh road for storage and light industry, (3) Okhla for light and medium industry, (4) Shahdara for medium industry.

It is proposed to relocate the slaughter-house and ancilliary trades on the south of Rohtak Road in the western corner of the urban area.

Four areas have been reserved for the dairy farms for relieving the city from the cattle and supplying milk and products to the urban area.

The principles governing the future residential areas are: Size and design of the neighbourhood for an optimum population including safe roads and circulation; Variety of dwelling units to suit different social groups and incomes; Diversity of population and occupation; Facilities for education, parks and shopping.

Tentative net ensities considered during the Interim General Plan: High: 151 to 200 persons acre; Medium High: 101 to 150 persons/acre; Low Medium: 51 to 100 persons/acre; Low: 1 to 50 persons/acre.

Additional residential areas are shown mainly on west and south. Major residential areas are also proposed in Shahdara.

One of the fascinating features of the Interim General Plan is the proposal to construct a four-mile long and 1,500 foot, wide promenade running along the bank of the Jumna from Red Fort to Humayun's Tomb. The Jumna will have to be trained with proper embankments and spurs before such a promenade can come into existence.

River front from Wazirabad in the north to Okhla in the south to be developed as a major recreation area. Provision for the zoological gardens, race course, bathing ghats, swimming beeches and pools, parks including children's tot lots, boating and fishing and open-air theatres to be made in this area. The whole area to be inter-connected by a parkway and pedestrian walks.

The ridge to be preserved as a natural green area with some planned recreational and picnic spots.

Mehrauli, Qutab Minar and Hauz Khas to be developed for intensive recreation.

Existing parks to be enlarged and improved are:—(1) Queen's Garden up to Red Fort; (2) Jama Masjid area to be cleared of junk yards and to be made a part of large open space connecting to the Edward Park and the adjacent areas; (3) Nicholson gradens in Civil Lines; (4) Ajmal Khan Park in Karol Bagh to be linked with Idgah and then to the ridge.

Proposed new parks are:—(1) Near Coronation Memorial in Civil Lines; (2) North of proposed Najafgarh Community shopping centre; (3) North of proposed Karol Bagh Patel Nagar community shopping centre; (4) South of proposed Vinay Nagar community shopping centre and; (5) West of Kailash colony.

(1) It is proposed to enlarge the North campus (Delhi State University) occupied

by the Defence Department. This campus to be reserved mainly for postgraduate studies.

(2) A south campus is proposed at the intersection of Kitchner Road and Outer Ring Road to accommodate colleges for undergraduate studies in the southern area.

(3) Jamianagar to be developed as a rural educational centre.

(4) The sites and locations of public schools, adult education centres and colleges to be determined during the phase of a comprehensive plan based on population and age characteristics.

(5) Central vista from Queensway to National Stadium to be developed as a convention and cultural centre. Red Fort and the adjoining area to be maintained and developed for selected cultural activities.

Old Delhi

Redevelopment of blighted and sub-standard areas is one of the most important problems of this area. Schemes for slum-clearance and rehousing can be prepared realistically only after a detailed survey of the physical and socio-economic characteristics of such areas.

Most of the Old Delhi area is blighted and lacks basic facilities for healthy living. It is suggested to prepare redevelopment plans including rehousing schemes in the comprehensive plan stage.

Objectionable industries and trades non-conforming to the residential uses, like the slaughter house, lime kilns, potteries and so on to be moved out and relocated out of the residential areas.

Roads

The major proposals for Circulation in the Interim General Plan areas are:

The National Bye-pass or the Outer Ring road, work on which began eight years ago, to be extended towards North of Coronation Memorial to join the G. T. Road and towards south up to Mathura Road. This will lead to bye-passing of the urban area completely.

Two major circular roads are proposed—(a) Inner Ring Road proposed from Humayun's Tomb along Lodi Road, through Diplomatic Enclave finally merging in the National Bye-pass near Kashmere Gate, and; (b) Inner loop to carry traffic to and from work-centre, starting from Teliwara, Mondhewala road and Ibbestson Road *via* Queen Victoria Road and finally to Mathura Road.

Creation of other arterial, sub-arterial, major and local roads with different cross-sections and closing of certain roads for vehicular traffic. These include :— Rohtak Road, Najafgarh Road, Shankar Road, Qutab Road, Grand Trunk Road and Ring Road.

It is proposed to provide a link between Shahjahanabad and New Delhi.

Traffic

It is suggested that municipal parking facilities should be provided for cars, buses, trucks, cycles, rickshaws and tongas. Details for actual locations to be developed in the comprehensive plan stage.

It is proposed to build special cycle tracks connecting strategically located offices and residential area. There will be several express cycle tracks leading to the Central Secretariat. Three of them will start from Vinay Nagar, Gole Market and Lajpatnagar. No other vechicular traffic will be allowed on these tracks.

It is suggested that rules and regulations be framed for movement of different types of traffic in the city. The planners have endeavoured to separate the slow moving form the fast moving traffic.

For future development of Shahdara as a new urban centre a change in alignment of railway line as well as of Grand Trunk Road east of the Jumna to bye-pass Shahdara is proposed. In ordet to provide access and open the area east of the Jumna, it is proposed to construct a new rail-cum-road bridge over the Jumna near Humayun's Tomb.

The need for a bigger and better international airport for Delhi is obvious. Safdarjung Airport, the capital's civil aerodrome, will be shifted from its present premises to

(*Continued on next page*)

Socio-Economic Survey of Greater Delhi

Under a Rs. 3,10,000 grant from the Research Programmes Committee of the Planning Commission the socio-economic survey of Greater Delhi is being conducted by the Delhi School of Economics under the guidance of its Director, Dr. V. K. R. V. Rao. Similar surveys were sanctioned by the Committee for 20 other leading cities and towns in India in order to make the planning process cover in an integrated manner both the urban and rural sectors.

The survey is designed to collect data necessaray for analysing the growth of population and for assessing the social and economic conditions of living in the Greater Delhi City,

The programme of survey commenced in May, 1955 and is expected to be completed by October, 1958. The actual field work will be completed in May, 1957, and the remaining time will be taken up in processing and analysing the data and drafting a report.

The programme of survey is being carried out in the following four parts: household survey of small shops and establishment, area survey of community facilities and services and employment survey of the organised sector.

According to Mr. N. K. Pant, Deputy Director, Greater Delhi Survey, the household survey is the most important part. This will result in an intensive enquiry into the living conditions and the means of livelihood of the people. It is designed to give a clear idea of the composition of population between original residents and immigrants into Delhi over the 15 last years as also of the present employment situation in Delhi.

It will cover nearly 17,000 of the estimated total 3,50,000 households in Delhi.

(Continued from previous page)

South of Shahdara, 12 miles from city. The site is subject to study and revision in the comprehensive plan stage. The present Safdarjung airport my be retained for the use of flying clubs and holicopters.

Utilities

Provision of water, sewerage and drainage facilities is the major limiting factor to the growth of healthy physical development.

It is roughly estimated that more than half the population of Old Delhi and even some of the newly-developed areas are unsewered. Shahdara does not have even a filtered water supply.

It is proposed that a regional water and sewerage plan be prepared on the basis of land-use recommendations in the Comprehensive Plan.

It is recommended that water sewer facilities should be provided to all the residential areas, which are unserviced today.

It is proposed to provide facilities in the Shahdara area.

In combination with the reservation and development of the river front area for recreational facilities a system of flood control shall be evolved by building "bunds" and river training spurs.

Master Plan Proposal Opposed

The United Chamber of Trade Associations, Delhi, has opposed the proposal, contained in the Interim Master Plan for the capital to stop vehicular traffic in Chandni Chowk. It pointed out that Chandni Chowk was not only a consumers' market. Crores of rupees worth of trade was transacted in the katras where the wholesale markets were located. The stoppage of vehicular traffic, it added, would be disadvantageous for hundreds of merchants and "wholly unjustified."

Five Million Urban Unemployed

Prof. P. C. Mahalanobis has estimated that the total urban unemployment in the country is of the order of five million.

School of Town And Country Planning

The first course of the School of Town and Country Planning was inaugurated by Mr. K. G. Saiyidian, Secretary, Union Ministry of Education, and Chairman of the Board of Governors of the School, on August 16. Temporarily housed in the Delhi Polytechnic, the School will be shifted to its own buildings by the middle of 1957, which are under construction on a two acre land allotted for the purpose in the Capital.

The School of Town and Country Planning was established by the Government of India in July, 1955 with the object of providing facilities for education and training in all aspects of rural, urban and regional planning in association with the Institute of Town Planners of India. The original idea of starting such an institution was to help with city planning; this has, however, been broadened in view of the importance of dealing with the larger problems of how to use land in both town and countryside.

The Board of Governors has also agreed to the proposal of the Housing Ministry to establish a chair in Housing in the School. The School envisages a far broader conception of planning than just architectural layout and civic design; it will deal with a large number of problems connected with the use of land, social, residential, commercial, educational and other, often conflicting, claims on land.

Inaugural Address

In his inaugural address, Mr. Saiyidain said that one of the major needs of town planning was an intelligent and rational approach. Industrialistion in the last century had resulted in the concentration of large populations and led to the growth of slum areas in big towns. Town Planning in India would have to avoid these two drawbacks of modern civilisation.

Adequate planning, he said, was a matter not only connected with money but more with imagination. He was glad that the policy of the laissez-faire was now giving way to one of healthy restlessness and that the problems of planning were being viewed in a more concerted manner at a regional, national or even international level.

Expansion of Delhi, Mr. Saiyidian said, had taken place without adequate planning. "We could learn from the experience of other countries and plan our cities more graciously", he said.

Director's Address

Mr. T. J. Manickam, Director of the School, giving details of the new institution, said the School intends to specialise in the field of Housing and it will have a Chair of Housing to study housing arrangement and other allied subjects and to conduct research.

It was proposed to have a sisterhood relationship with the Department of Regional Planning at the Indian Institute of Technology at Kharagpur, where emphasis is laid on regional planning. This will be in the form of exchange of staff and students.

The School would have a maximum intake of 25 students for the two year Diploma course in town and country planning when it is equipped completely and adequately staffed. There will also be one year intensive course for architects and engineers with some experience in planning.

Mr. Walter George's Address

Mr. Walter George, Vice-President of the Institute of Town Planners, India, said: "We are teaching a new profession in India, and are very greatly in need of understanding by the public, without whose keen interest we can do little, and we also need, even more, the continuous understanding of the Government of India."

He added: "We can do little more at this school than give the student as fair as possible an idea of relative values, and teach him methods of attacking and handling the problems that will face him. In short, we can only teach him how to learn. He will not be a finished product at the end of his course, but we hope

he will have been taught how to teach himself: time, his own experiences, and himself must do the rest.

"It is realized that new words are needed to express new ideas, and the shorter they are the better, but cramming them down people's throats by saying, 'You must have a green belt here or a civic centre there', does not help very much and is not good town planning practice.

"Behind the cliches 'green belt' and 'green wedge' lie solid reasons of open air and light and space, and many more, but there are also intangible psychological reasons lying at the very root of man's existence. Man was not created to live on seas of asphalt between precipices of bricks and mortar. He craves, unconsciously, the companionship of growing things, a craving inbred in him from his own prehistoric origins, and that should be remembered in all planning. To recognize this, you have only to look at the tiniest yards behind our tight new slum quarters, and you will find in a few years all sorts of things growing there, from tulsi plants to bananas, and even small trees.

"You can satisfy that urge for growing things in many other ways than by green belts and green wedges, but to do so, careful forethought and imagination are needed, and some knowledge of how things grow, and what conditions they need before they can grow. If you can give light and air to a plant, you are also giving it to the man who lives there with the plant, which is really your job. Leave the horticulturist room for the roots of his trees, (it is often forgotten) and you will automatically be leaving more light and air, and also providing some delight, to those who have to live in the towns or cities you plan."

Kanpur Municipal Board

TENDER NOTICE

Centrifugal Pumps for Pumping sullage water

Sealed tenders are invited for supply of two electrically driven vertical spindle centrifugal pumps each capable of pumping 3,500 G. P. M. of sullage water at a total head of 60 ft. from all causes and complete erection of the same at Parmat Ghat, on the prescribed form which can be had on payment of Rs. 10/- only for one copy with a copy of drawing from the office of the undersigned on any working day during office hours.

The sealed tenders supercribed the tender for supply of electrically driven sewage pumps for Parmat Ghat, should reach the office of the undersigned by 28-10-1956, up to 12 noon at the latest.

R. N. Tandon,
Electrical & Mechanical Engineer,
Water Works, Kanpur.

Housing Shortage In Asia

Housing conditions in Asia are almost certain to get worse in the years to come unless "resolute measures" are taken to improve them.

This is the view of 50 housing experts and senior Government officials from 19 countries of the region who attended the fourth session of the Working Party of the U. N. Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East on housing and building materials which was held in Bangkok in August.

Already, despite determined efforts, housing shortage in Asia is "more acute than in any other region of the world" and the solution of this problem is "not yet in sight", according to the experts.

A press release on the Working Party's deliberations issued by the U. N. Information Centre in New Delhi said the experts were of the view that to build more and cheaper houses, action was required in two directions. First, conditions must be created in Asian countries for long-term financing of housing construction along the lines customary in more developed countries.

Secondly, building methods should be modernized through the introduction of certain "relatively uncomplicated building methods" and use of local building materials.

Other recommendations of the experts concerned co-ordinating housing programmes, development and stengthening of aided self-help, revision of land acquistion legislation, building codes and building legislation as well as rent control and tax reliefs and study tours of housing experts.

The Press release said that though the experts were appreciative of Government efforts to stimulate building programmes, they felt that in view of the existing bad housing conditions, growth of populations and movements of populations to towns, more intensive measures were required. They emphasized that the State would have to play an active part for many years in stimulating and planning housing construction and suggested that greater attention should be paid to the co-ordination of planning, for the provision of raw materials and design and construction of houses.

The experts urged that more emphasis should be given to the construction of houses in villages where three-quarters of all Asian houses were located and where very little had so far been done to get better and more houses constructed.

The delegates suggested that a study tour by Asian housing experts of Europe, the USSR and the USA should be organized in 1957 with the financial assistance of U. N. Technical Assistance Administration.

The session was attended by representatives from Australia, Burma, Cambodia, Ceylon, China, France, India, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand, the USSR, the U. K,. the USA and Viet Nam and observers from FAO, ILO, W. H. O. and the International Chamber of Commerce.

Housing Corporation For Andhra

The Government of India has suggested to the Andhra Government to constitute State Housing Finance Corporation to be administered jointly by the Central and the State Governments. The suggestion was accepted by the State Housing Advisory Committee on August 6 and the Secretary of the Housing Department was asked to draw up a detailed scheme.

The Government of India have allotted Rs. 12.5 laks for construction of 1,250 houses for Scheduled Castes in Andhra in the Second Plan period.

The Committee approved in principle the suggestion of the Union Government to constitute into a separate fund the proceeds of the taxes on vacant sites in urban areas for undertaking housing programmes.

Deplorable Housing Conditions In Calcutta

According to the socio-economic survey of the city of Calcutta, conducted by the Department of Economics in cooperation with the Statistics Department of the Calcutta University, at the request of the Planning Commission's Research Programme Committee, housing conditions in Calcutta are said to be extremely deplorable. The average room-space per head comes to only 30 sq. ft. for more than 42 per cent of households and to 30-80 sq. ft. for 31 percent of households. The single-member households have on an average about one-eigth of a room to live in. Among households containing two or more members, about 61 percent has no separate kitchen, 50 percent no bathroom, 28 percent no water tap and 6 percent no laterine.

The survey, which covered 4,923 households consisting of 14,664 persons, reveals that as much as 36 percent of the population belonging to the lower income groups lives below the poverty line, the average per capita income being less than Rs. 30 per month. One out of every ten persons in the age group 15-59 is unemployed, excluding the voluntarily unemployed.

30,000 Houses For Coal Miners

The Deputy Labour Minister, Mr. Abid Ali, informed the Lok Sabha on August 2 that a scheme for the construction of 30,000 houses for coal miners during the next five years from the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund has been finalised. The houses would be constructed through the agency of contractors under the supervision of the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund Organization. Each tenement would cost Rs. 2700. The amount in the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund now stood at approximately Rs. 5 crores and with further collection of the cess, it would be possible to provide the necessary funds for the construction of these tenements. The employers would be responsible to recover the monthly rent of Rs. 2 per tenement from coalminers.

Slum Clearance In Madras City

Referring to slum clearance, Mr. M. Bhaktavatsalam, Leader of the House, replying to the debate on the Governor's address in the Madras Legislative Council on August 13, said it was the policy of the Government to concentrate first on slums in Government lands. There was difficulty in finding alternative accomodation for the slum dwellers. A survey had been made and out of 128 slums in the south of Madras city and 182 in the north, 60 in the south and 67 in the north had been selected by the Corporation and the City Improvement during the Second Five Year Plan.

The State Government would make 2,000 houses for industrial workers during this year.

House of Tomorrow

A scale model of a one-family house, made of moulded plastic parts, with built-in coloured walls, flower-shaped wash basins and egg-shaped closets, was recently unveiled by Walt Disney at the Coliseum in New York City. A life-size model of the "House of Tomorrow" will be built in the Tomorrowland area of Disneyland at Anaheim, California. The New York model was a feature of Monsanto Chemical Company's exhibit at the Seventh National Plastics Exhibition.

The plastic house features moulded walls and floors similar in concept to plastic shells of boats. Around a central core having a kitchen and two bathrooms are four wings. By adding another core and other wings, the house can be enlarged or re-arranged.. Windows are made of plastic, but curtains are hung on rods as in any other house. The parts of the house are made up of compound curves for strength, said architect Marvin Goody of Boston, at the showing. The parts nest so that the three-bedroom model with two baths can be loaded on two trucks for delivery. Rooms can be flooded with a choice of colours by means of a colour lighting system.

The cost of the house, once it gets into production, will be approximately the same as that of a more traditional house of the same size.

Rapid Urbanization In Asia

Joint Ecafe-Unesco Seminar

A ten-day seminar on the urbanization in the ECAFE (Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East) region was opened in Bangkok on August 8 by Thailand's Prime Minister Field Marshal Pibulsongram at Sala Santitham (Peace Hall).

The seminar was jointly sponsored by the United Nations and UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) in cooperation with ILO (International Labour Organization) and was attended by some 50 social scientists, economists and administrators from 15 countries and various non-governmental organizations.

Dr. Albert Dollinger, Acting Executive Secretary of ECAFE, Dr. J. D. N. Verslyus Deputy Director of the UNESCO Research Centre on the Social Implications of Industrialization in Southern Asia, and Mr. P. S. Narasimhan, Deputy Director, Asian Field Office, International Labour Organization, made opening statements.

Dr. Dollinger, ECAFE's Acting Executive Secretary, said that the great phenomenon of urbanization has been increasingly affecting Asia and other under-developed regions of the world during the last decade. In Asia, urbanization is only partly caused by industrialization ; contributory factors are—recent political changes and the effects of war and political disturbances.

He said that the urban misery and rural poverty represent in Asia two sides of the same coin, and in this field determined governmental efforts and planning were required.

He observed that the problem of urbanization lent itself to a concerted approach by the international organizations and it was, therefore, appropriate for a number of international organizations to get together for an analysis of this problem.

Dr. Versluys (UNESCO) said that vast populations have recently migrated into cities in Asia without being integrated. However, problems of urbanization must not obscure the fact that the cities have since the earliest times been the source and carriers of culture and social progress. The Seminar not only attempted clarification of the phenomenon of urbanization, but also endeavoured to produce practical proposals designed to assist the governments in solving urbanization problems.

Mr. Ernest Weissmann (UN) said that urbanization was likely to assume an even more rapid pace in less-developed countries as transport and communication facilities were improving. On the other hand, modern technology offered much larger possibilities for a healthy distribution of population than existed in the past.

Mr. Narasimhan (ILO) drew attention to some of the aspects of urbanization especially connected with Asian condition. Among these are the inability of the Asian village worker to adapt himself to the rhythm of industrial work in his own traditional concept of education with emphasis on academic training.

The Seminar was attended by representatives from Burma, Cambodia, China, France, India, Indonesia, Japan, the Netherlands, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand, USSR, USA, Vietnam, Malaya and British Borneo.

Education Of Slum-dwellers

Dr. John Matthai, Vice-Chancellor of Bombay University, said on August 6 that the university had a proposal under consideration to take education to the slums and factories in the city.

Selected teachers, he said, would go to the slums and factories and spread education through simple words and ideas. Factory workers would be first taught the technicalities of what they produced and the problems of marketing their produce so as to create in them an interest in their work. Stage by stage, the history of their factory and the country would be taught to the workers so that a creative attitude towards life and its problems could be developed in the worker.

Public Health Engineers' 2nd Conference

The Second Confrence of Public Health Engineers in India was held in New Delhi from August 6 to 9.

The Union Deputy Health Minister, Mrs. M. Chandrasekhar, in her inaugural address to the Conference, said that water supply and sanitation programme must have a special priority in the development of all health services and "hoped that the funds provided for these vital services will be utilised to the full in the Second Plan."

She said in the Second Plan Rs. 23 crores had been provided by the States for urban water supply and drainage schemes. The Central Government, she added, had earmarked Rs. 30 crores in addition, to be distributed as loan to the States for urban water supply and drainage schemes.

A special provision of Rs. 10 crores for granting loans towards water supply and drainage schemes in corporations had also been made by the Central Government.

The Deputy Health Minister said the States had provided Rs. 28 crores for rural water supply and sanitation schemes of which the Central Government would make a contribution equivalent to 50 per-cent of the cost of the schemes sanctioned under this programme during the Second Plan.

The Central Government, she said, with the assistance of the U. S. under the Technical Co-operation Assistance programme had inaugurated the National Water Supply and Sanitation Programme. The provision of a safe water supply and satisfactory methods of excreta disposal in every community in this country, rural and urban, was the main objective of this programme, she added.

Under the National Water Supply and Sanitation Programme, established in the latter half of the First Plan steps were being taken to provide protected water supply and adequate drainage for the entire population of the country in the course of a few years, the Deputy Minister said.

"The assistance given to States for their urban schemes is in the form of loans and it is left to the State Government to decide in what manner to pass one of these loans to local bodies. During the First Plan, period, a sum of Rs. 12.72 crores was sanctioned for this purpose. Twenty-three States submitted 287 urban water supply schemes and 79 drainage schemes for sanction of loans. Out of these 196 urban water supply schemes and 58 drainage schemes in 17 States were approved. Although the entire amount available was allocaled to the participating States, only Rs. 829.465 lakhs or about 65 per cent of the funds was actually utilised," she said.

The assistance given to the States for their rural programme, Mrs. Chandrasekhar said was in the from of outright grants equal to one half of the cost of each of the approved schemes. The other half of the cost of the scheme has to be found by the State through contribution by the villagers, local bodies and or from State revenues, she said.

Referring to the acute shortage of trained technical personnel, in public health engineering, she said the Central Government had provided Rs. 50 lakhs in the Second Plan. The Health Ministry had prepared a comprehensive training programme for training engineers, overseers. waterworks and sewage treatment works operators and sanitary inspectors. She hoped the State Government would utilise facilities for training to the full extent as the Centre had agreed to give financial assistance in the shape of stipends to trainees in addition to payment of the entire amount of tuition and examination fees at the training institutes.

Conference Recommendations

The Conference recommendad that all public health engineering works in both urban and rural areas should be carried out under the supervision and control of State Public Health Engineers, for which

purpose a separate organization, where one does not exist, should be established.

The Conference also resolved that all water supply and sanitation programmes for the rural areas should be executed under the supervision of the Public Health Engineers of States.

The urgency for establishing a Central Public Health Engineering Research Institute under the Union Health Ministry was emphasized, as also to expand facilities for research in various scientific institutions, universities and State public health engineering departments. This Institute should co-operate with other agencies engaged in similar pursuits. It was generally agreed that the proposed Institute, which should be well-equipped to handle research and technical services in water supply, water pollution control, sewage and industrial waste disposal and such other problems, should pay special attention to the needs of the rural sanitation programmes.

Training Programme

The Conference considered the question of training public health engineering personnel, since it was reported States did not make satisfactory progress for want of sufficient number of qualified men. It requested the Union Government to launch its training programme, including a model course to train plant operators to man the water supply and sewage treatment plant will be started in Delhi under the guidance of the Central Public Health Engineering Organization.

The Conference recommended that cast iron pipes and specials should be imported and their value equalized in the same manner as had been done in the case of steel and cement. If this was not done it was felt it would not be possible to execute the various urban water supply and sanitation schemes expeditiously.

Regarding the maintenance of water supply and sanitation in rural areas, the Conference felt that it should be the responsibility of States to maintain these installations, at least during the second Plan period.

West Bengal Students' Poor Health

In West Bengal every third school-going student suffers from diseases, according to the figures placed before the State Assembly by the Health Minister on August 1. The highest incidence of illness among students is in Burdwan district where 45 percent of students have been found to be ill. Malnutrition is commonly prevalent among students, and in Darjeeling it is the highest, 40 percent of the students suffering from it. In Calcutta 7.2 percent of students suffer from eye diseases, 4.4 percent from throat diseases and 6.6 percent from the diseases of the mouth.

The Fly Menace in Hot Climates

Why are flies so much more of a nuisance (and more dangerous to health) and so much more difficult to control in hot climates than in temperate ones? At least a partial answer to this question is given in a report on fly control in Israel, prepared by Dr. H. Speich, medical consultant of the World Health Organization.

During a recent visit Dr. Speich found that, in the Israeli climate, about 26 generations of flies per year must be reckoned with. This makes the fly population pressure there much higher than, for instance, in Central and Northern Europe, where the number of generations per year is about 11 to 13. In the summer heat, moreover, it was found that the pupal development stage of flies in Israel lasts only three days as compared with 10 to 12 days in cooler weather.

One experiment showed the degree of fly density sometimes reached in Israel. In a large kitchen, 180 metres away from a cow-shed (the nearest important breeding place) a net was cast 10 times per hour over a work table. The total number of flies trapped in three hours was 3,400. Since each throw of the net was eluded by about one-third of the flies present on the table, it can be assumed that, during the three-hour period, about 5,500 flies settled there, and that 1,800 fresh flies arrived every hour.

Dr. Speich concluded that only sanitary measures, together with well-planned use of the correct insecticides, can be effective against flies in hot climates, on a reasonably economical basis.

Augmenting Delhi's Water Supply: Water For Rajasthan Villages

The ad hoc committee constitued for devising measures to ensure adequate water supply for Delhi, considered certain schemes for the purpose and reviewed the progress made so far, in its meeting on July 18.

A number of steps have already been taken to implement the recommendations of Jaundice Inquiry Committee. Among other things, for training the Jumna at Wazirabad, all necessary data required by the Director, Central Water and Power Research Station, Poona, has been supplied. A model for experiments has been completed by him and alternatives are being tried to find out the ways of keeping the river permanently towords the intake.

Rajasthan Rural Water Board

Rajasthan's Local Self-Government Minister, Mr. Badri Prasad Gupta, said in Jodhpur on August 9 that a further sum of Rs. 40 lakhs had been granted to the State Rural Water Board for providing pure water to the desert villages. The Board's own contribution to the schemes will be Rs. 20 laks. The Board had spent Rs. 1 crore last year.

Water Famine In Bhopal

Bhopal—the city of lakes, which will shortly become the capital of the proposed new Madhya Pradesh State—was in the grip of an acute famine of drinking water caused by the abrupt failure of the city's water supply on August 26.

Public hydrants and personal water taps suddenly stopped working in evening. On the following day hundreds of men, women, and children, with empty buckets, were roaming the streets in search of water.

Mr. Mujtaba Khan, Executive Officer, of the Bhopal Municipal Board, said one of the two pumping sets at the Pulpukhta pumping station, one had gone out of order about a month ago. The other broke down on August 26.

A mass signature campaign was launched in different mohallas of the town to protest against the "negligence of the municipal authorities."

Water Conservation : Australian Aid

Under the initiative of the Australian External Affairs Minister, Mr. R. G. Casey, and after preliminary discussions with Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru, and the Food Minister, Mr. A. P. Jain, a programme of technical aid is being drawn up under which Australia will provide assistance to India in the field of water conservation, irrigation and artificial rain-making. Prof. M. S. Thacker, two Indian rain-making experts, one official each from the Indian Ministry of Irrigation and Power, and Food and Agriculture would visit Australia to study the latest discoveries in Australia in the field of water conservation, prevention of seepage of water, water harvesting, artificial rain-making and special techniques of building dams. Later, three Australian experts will visit India in November or December this year to share their knowledge with Indian experts.

Discovery of Hexadeconal

Mr. Jack G. Beale, a member of Parliament of New South Wales, and Chairman of the Water Research Foundation of Australia, who had been asked by the Australian External Affairs Minister, to meet Indian Prime Minister, said one of the recent "discoveries" in Australia was a chemical which when applied to the surface of stored water created a molecular film, thereby reducing evaporation. The chemical, hexadeconal, discovered about two years ago. which costs about Rs. 3 per pound can protect about half a million gallons of water and this chemical is not injurious to the health of human beings plants or animals.

National High Ways Bill : Central Government Take-over

The Lok Sabha on August 13 without any dissenting vote passed the National Highways Bill which will enable the Union Government to take over direct responsibility for certain highways in India. The Bill lists 39 highways of 13,800 miles length which are to be declared national highways so that the Central Government may develop and maintain them more effectively. Power is also sought to be taken under the Bill to declare by notification other highways to be national highways.

The Bill was passed by the Rajya Sabha on August 30. The question of formulating a regular physical plan for road development was engaging Government's attention. Mr. O. V. Alagesan, Deputy Transport Minister, informed the Rajya Sabha that Government will appoint a special officer for starting work in connection with the formulating of a road development plan.

Commending the Bill to the Lok Sabha on August 13, Mr. Alagesan said: "The National Highways Bill represents another landmark in the history of Indis's development. This is a unique occasion inasmuch as this is the first time that the Central Government proposes to take over direct statutory responsibility for certain highways in the States."

Competition between the Railways and roadways was now a closed chapter, Mr. Alagesan said. Close co-ordination between the two was necessary in the light of Five Year Plan and the need for maintenance and development of roadways for free and unhindered traffic could not be over-emphasised. For the Second Plan period the Planning Commission had made a provision of Rs. 55 crore for development of national highways.

Not a single village in the country would be at a distance of more than five miles from a district road after the completion of the Five-Year Plan, assured Mr. Alagesan.

The Bill was welcomed by all sections of the House, though some members suggested that the Government have an integrated plan for the development of roads in the country, from village level to national highways. The Minister said that such plan was already being implemented by the Government.

Members suggested: the cess levied on diesel oil should be earmarked for road development and should not go the general revenues, road tolls and cess levied by the local Boards should be abolished and these bodies compensated by the State or Central Government, Municipalities should not be entrusted with the maintenance of national highways as they did not have adequate resources, a Roads Board on the lines of the U. S. Federal Bureau of Roads should be created.

Replying to the debate, Mr. Alagesan said the Government were investigating the possibilities of constructing either a bridge across the Brahmaputra in Assam, or a tunnel below the river. Of the 72 major bridges whose construction was undertaken in the first Plan period, 30 had been completed. Construction of others was in progress. In the second Plan period, construction of another 72 bridges would be undertaken, of which 60 would be completed.

Mr. Alagesan said due to financial limitations other important roads could not be declared as national highways. An all weather road up to Uri in Kashmir would be completed when the construction of the Bannihal tunnel was finished. One of the tubes of the tunnel was expected to be opened for traffic by November or December next. The whole tunnel would be completed by the end of 1958.

The Transport Ministry had taken up the matter with the Finance Ministry that it would get part of the duty on diesel oil. He hoped his Ministry's proposal would receive due

(*Continued on page* 58)

U. S. Plans Over 40,000 Miles Of Super-Highways: Pay-as-you-drive Plan

The U. S. Congress in June this year approved the 33,000 million dollar highway construction programme first, suggested by President Eisenhower in 1953. A major feature of the legislation provides for the construction of a vast 41,000 mile network of super-highways throughout the nation. The Federal Government will pay 90 percent of the costs, and the States will pay the remainder. The Federal Government will raise funds for the programme through a 16 year tax on highways users. Taxes will be increased on tyres a gasolene and large vehicles, such as trucks, buses and trailers. To the average American motorist, this will mean about 8.60 dollars more in taxes annually. But he will receive in return, a number of compensating savings, many of them difficuit to measure but highly important.

The huge programme to be completed in 13 years will provide a four to eight lane roadways system connecting 42 of the 48 State capitals and 90 percent of the U. S. cities with populations of 50,000 and above (209 out of a total 237).

Other features of the legislation call for construction and improvement of U. S. roads within national parks and increased Federal payment to States for improvement of existing roads.

According to one of the sponsors of the measure, the system will consist of "broad, straight, trouble-free roads... criss-crossing America from coast to coast and border to border."

An estimated 3,500 lives a year, now lost in traffic accidents because of over-crowded roads, may be saved.

As roads become safer, motorists also can expect lower automobile insurance rates. With traffic moving faster on better roads, the operators of America's 63 million autos and trucks can look forward to savings in vehicl wear and tear in the use of gasoline and oil. The movement of goods from farms mines and factories will be faster and cheaper.

The face of the nation will undergo a noticeable change. Replacing many narrow and winding roads now in use will be thoroughfares four to eight lanes wide. Instead of dangerous intersections there will be overpasses and underpasses. New suburban communities and new industrial plants will grow up near the new super-highways, as transportation between cities and outlying areas becomes less of a problem.

The biggest highway-building project in the U. S. history has been inaugurated to serve national transportation needs and not to overcome economic difficulties. Nevertheless, the programme will inevitably carry with it many economic benefits. It will certainly constitute a sustaining force that will help maintain high levels of economic activity throughout the country. It promises, moreover, to expand still further the prosperity of many segments of the economy, directly involved in road construction.

Each $1,000 million worth of new highways, for instance, requires an estimated 16 million barrels of cement, 76 million tons of sand and gravel, 510,000 tons of steel, 100,000 tons of asphalt and $500 million in new construction equipment. These new demands on industry may well open up more than half a million new jobs.

U. K. Plans Major Improvement To Its Roads

At present the problems of Britain's highways are being tackled on two complementary sets of lines—new investment on motorways, improved trunk roads, better communications inside towns, and so on; and greater safety in the use of existing roads. Parliament is expected soon to pass a Road Traffic Bill whose main aims are: first, to reduce the number of 250,000 persons killed and injured on the roads of Britain each year; and, second, to help more efficient

use of the roads system. The country is, in fact, now well launched on a big programme that in 1956-57 will probably lead to authorisations of as much as £34,000,000 worth of new work.

For the next few years there is projected a considerable series of motor roads, from which all but automobile traffic will be excluded.

Work has just begun on perhaps the most important part of this scheme—an eight-mile stretch of road, costing £3,000,000 that will carry traffic round the ancient and important Lancashire town of Preston. So much has traffic come to be centred on Preston that it has been no uncommon thing for vehicles to take 90 minutes to travel through it between the points now to be joined by the new by-pass, which it is reckoned will be travelled at reasonable speed in 10 or 15 minutes.

Safety as well as industrial efficiency and convenience is intended to be promoted by such important new roads and by the complementary improvements, begun and projected, inside London and other great towns. In London, in particular, certain major improvements, as for example on the route from the centre of the city to London Airport, are already in hand.

Toll Roads In Japan

Since April 16, 1956 the construction of toll roads in Japan, begun in 1952, is being handled by the Japan Road Corporation. The development of a large-scale toll road net-work to cope with the shortage of highways, resulting from failure of the regular road improvement programme to keep pace with the rapid increase of automobiles and the deterioration of roads in the post-war years, was begun with the enactment of the Special Law for Adjustment of Roads in 1952.

In order to execute this law, a Special Account for Road Adjustment was established independent of the General Account budget of the Government. In this account the Government, which was the sole contributor, gave approximately 55,56,000 dollar annually till April this year when it was discontinued. The Japan Road Corporation which now has taken over the construction of toll roads can freely seek private investments to expedite the early completion of its projects, and with private funds being funnelled into toll road projects, the future of this programme to construct better highways, togeather with the development of trunk highways connecting principal cities, for the growing number of vehicles in Japan is stated to be exceedingly bright.

The construction of a toll road is allowed if the following conditions are met :—That the toll road will greatly benefit the persons utilising such road, that it is parallelled by another road, which does not make it mandatory to use toll road, and that the expenses required for construction or repair of a toll road shall be redeemed. It is planned to make the roads free of charge once the cost of construction has been covered by tolls.

Toll roads and bridges, including those under construction, which the Japan Road Corporation, inherited from the Special Account for Road Adjustment, number 32, fourteen of which have been completed and they are already collecting toll.

(*Continued from page* 56)

consideration at the hands of the Finance Ministry.

The Deputy Minister said he was for the abolition of the various octroi duties and road tolls levied on national highways. But the Taxation Inquiry commission did not agree to this proposal of the Transport Ministry, as the various local boards would be deprived of an income of about Rs. 11 crores. His Ministry had again taken up this question in the Transport Advisory Council and was trying to minimize what he called the retarding effects of these taxes on the traffic on the highwayas as much as possible.

Mr Alagesan said as the Madras and Bombay Governments were not enthusiastic in constructing the west coast road from Panvel near Bombay to Mangaiore with the aid of the Centre, the Centre had now taken upon itself the entire responsibility of constructing this road.

Safety Measures in Capital—Accidents in Calcutta on Increase

Mr. B. N. Datar, Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs, outlined the causes of motor accidents in Delhi, and the steps taken to check them in a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on August 3.

During the period March, 1955, to February 1956 and from March, 1956, to June, 1956, there were 1101 and 339 accidents, respectively.

Rash and negligent driving, failure to comply with traffic rules, violation of traffic regulations by cyclists, lack of road sense among pedestrians, obstruction to pedestrians due to unauthorized stalls on pavements, and use of dazzling lights by motorists were the main causes of the accidents.

Detailing the steps being taken to check accidents. Mr. Datar said speed checking was arranged on various road. A special cycle staff regularly operated in both Delhi and New Delhi to apprehend cyclists contravening traffic regulations. Cyclists were also advised through leafltes and the Press to provide lamps, good brakes, bells and reflectors on cycles and to avoid double riding. A mobile traffic squad attached to mobile courts functioned daily and dealt with traffic offenders on the spot.

Pavements in Naya Bazar, G. B. Road and Hamilton Road in Delhi had been cleared of squatters. Loading and unloading of goods on Naya Bazar and G. B. Road, which was the cause of congestion, had been prohibited from 9 a. m. to 10-30 a. m., and from 5 to 7 p. m. Plying of heavy vehicles on certain busy roads of the State during peak hours had been prohibited. Plying of cycle-rickshaws on Elgin and Faiz Bazar Roads had been prohibited in order to reduce the volume of slow-moving traffic on these roads.

Pedestrian Crossings

Pedestrian crossings had been laid on important roads for safe crossing. The strength of the traffic police at various busy crossings had been increased for duty during peak hours and officers were also posted to control traffic.

A large number of sign-boards, indicating speed limits, 'no parking' etc. were exhibited on roads for the guidance of the public. Driving of motor vehicles on park lights only had been ordered on certain roads, where the street lighting was satisfactory. On the recommendation of the police, additonal street lighting on various roads and crossings had been provided recently by local bodies.

Only selected policemen were posted to the traffic branch of the police, and the syllabus for their training had been so revised as to conform to the present-day needs. Propaganda to make the motorists and the public more safety-minded was carried on through cinema slides and leaflets etc. During peak hours, loud-speakers were also used at busy crossings in New Delhi and Delhi.

Traffic Rules Violations In Delhi

The number of prosecutions in Delhi for violating traffic rules was 3,627 in July this year as against 2,971 in the same month last year, according to the traffic police authorities.

Of the cases prosecuted in July, 1,533 were tried by the courts and fines amounting to Rs. 21,718 were realized. Twenty-eight private cars were found playing on the streets as taxis as against only four last year during the same month. The owners of seven cars were convicted and a sum of Rs. 360 had been realized from them.

The number of cyclists, who were found violating traffic regulations, was 7,148 during the month under review. Of these, 739 appeared in the courts and the fines realized from them amounted to Rs. 3,231.

Training In Road Safety

Delhi Road Safety Publicity Sub-Committee has recommended the publication of

detailed reports of road accidents and imparting of training in road safety measures to school students. Villagers and the general public. The Sub-Committee has also recommended that Rs. 50,000 be earmarked by the Government annually for road safety publicity.

Pedestrian Crossings

Among the Sub-Committee's recommendations for checking road accidents are provision of pedestrian crossings at all important road intersections and provision of railings where pedestrian crossings begin.

It has been suggested that to acquaint school students with road safety measures, teachers should be given training first.

Street Accidents In Calcutta On Increase

Chief Minister Dr. B. C. Roy told the West Bengal Assembly on August 23 that the number of street accidents in Calcutta has increased. During the period January to May this year, 79 persons had been killed and 1,660 injured in 6,476 cases of street accidents reported.

In January 1,187 cases were reported (12 killed and 331 injured); in Febuary 1,277 cases (17 killed and 325 injured); in March 1,211 cases (16 killed and 303 injured); in April 1,386 cases (17 killed and 376 injured); and in May 1,415 cases (17 killed and 325 injured).

Giving the reasons for increase in accidents, Dr. Roy said that these were: (1) increase in vehicles without increase in road mileage, (2) increase in population of the city, due to influx of refugees, who were oblivious of the hazards on the streets of Calcutta and therefore they got injured in traffic accidents; (3) reluctance of pedestrians to use footpaths; and (4) slow-moving vehicles.

Steps proposed to be taken by Government, Dr. Roy said, to check the increase in street accidents included: (1) strictly enforcing the speed limit of vechicles; (2) constructing subways and overbridges at Crossings like Dalhousie Square, Sealdah, Esplanade etc.; (3) educating the pedestrians and drivers by holding Safety First Week; (4) asking the Corporation to improve road conditions as also footpaths; and (5) strictly checking mechanical fitness of transport vehicles.

Replying to a supplementary the Chief Minister said all the big cities went by total mileage and the total number of vehicles. In Bombay, total mileage was 402, and in Calcutta 138; but the number of vehicles on Calcutta streets was twice as much as in Bombay.

As regards slow-moving vehicles like 'hand-cart' and rickshaw, Dr. Roy said it had been found that these vehicles obstructed the traffic where a large number of vehicles moved, or where the vehicles moved faster than elsewhere. At such places, naturally, there would be obstruction and traffic jams.

Government had been considering whether on important streets or on roads often used by pedestrians, they should abolish or restrict the use of slow-moving vehicles; or replace hand-carts by some sort of lorries and rickshaw by some other vehicles which would improve traffic conditions, Dr. Roy added.

Traffic Problems in Madras

The Madras Government has not accepted the proposal of Madras Corporation to depute an Assistant Engineer of the Corporation for specialised study and training abroad in highways engineering. The State Government thought that the traffic problems in Madras City could be well tackled with the existing facilities in India and the experience that might be gained through research work in the Highways Research Laboratory in Madras.

Training In Traffic Engineering

The London Transport Executive, United Kingdom, has offered to train six Indians in traffic operation and engineering for a period of three to six months during the year 1957.

Unmanned Level-Crossings

The Central Government would bring to the notice of the State Governments the suggestion made by the Chairman of

(*Continued on next page*)

Road Transport Nationalisation Policy

Motor Vehicles Amendment Bill

The Lok Sabha on August 11 passed a motion for reference of the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill to a joint committee of two houses, 45 members.

The Bill, among other things, provides for (a) the regulation, by the Centre, of inter-State operation of transport vehicles, (b) licensing of conductor and (c) uniform rates of compensation to nationalised road undertakings.

The Government, Mr. O. V. Alagesan, Deputy Minister for Transport said, did not want to be apologetic about nationalized road transport undertakings of various State Governments which had played a very useful part in improving the growth of the transport industry. "Nationalization in the field of road transport has come to stay and nobody can wipe it away," he added.

Assurance To Goods Transport

At the same time, he did not want the private interests to be scared away by this development. The Government, he said, had clearly laid that "there will be no nationalization of goods transport services during the next five years. Even with regard to nationalization of passenger transport services it has been recommended to the State Governments that they should suitably phase their programmes for expansion and, simultaneously, a liberal policy should be pursued in regard to the licensing of goods vehicles and also of passenger vehicles in areas lying outside the proposed nationalization schemes."

The State Governments, Mr. Alagesan said, had been informed that their schemes for nationalized road transport had been approved on the understanding that corporations wherein the railways and, if possible, private operators could participate would be set up for running the nationalized undertakings.

Further expansion of the nationalized sector in the road transport was limited by the funds that had been made available under the second Plan, he added.

With this "clarification of the Government's position" Mr. Alagesan hoped "all uncertainties and doubts will be removed and private operators, who even now provide almost the entire goods transport services and about three-fourths of the passenger services, will expand their field further with confidence and enthusiasm."

The Deputy Minister said the Act included only one section which sought to restrict the hours of work of drivers. The question whether the Act should be enlarged to cover other matters relating to their employment was considered and it was agreed that it would be more proper to undertake separate legislation on the subject. The Labour Ministry was already seized of the matter and was considering proposals for the enactment of suitable legislation.

Central Authority

The Bill empowered the Government to constitute a central transport authority for purposes of co-ordinating and regulating the activities of Inter-State trans-

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(*Continued from previous page*)

the Bombay State Road Transport Corporation for adoption in India of the Japanese practice to avoid collision between vehicles and trains at unmanned railway crossings, Mr. O. V. Alagesan Deputy Transport Minister informed the Loke Sabha last month.

The Japanese practice is that, whenever a public vehicle approaches an unmanned railway crossing, the vehicle stops, the conductor gets down sees the railway track on both sides and makes sure that the way is clear. He then gives a signal to the vehicle to cross the track.

port authorities that might be constituted at the request of State Governments.

Provision had also been made for a uniform law relating to nationalization of road transport services and compensation to permit holders if their permits were cancelled or the terms thereof modified.

Principle of Taxation

Replying to the debate, Mr. Alagesan said that in accordance with the recommendations of the Study Group set up by the Planning Commission, the Government tried to bring in legislation laying down principles of motor vehicles taxation and ceilings. They were, however, advised that under the Constitution, no principle of taxation could embrace laying down of ceilings, and so they had to fall back on the machinery of the Transport Advisory Council.

"We have taken up this question before the forum of the Transport Advisory Council. State Governments, natually—I do not blame them—have asked for some time to consider it," said Mr. Alagesan. "Our intention is that the level of motor vehicles taxation should be well within 75 per cent of the present Madras taxation. We are working towards that, and if the State Governments can agree to it voluntarily without our having to undertake any legislation—because we just cannot—it will go a great way in lifting the load of taxation off motor transport."

The study group, he pointed out, had reached the conclusion that the element of taxation was not really oppressive but some reduction should be effected in order to produce a psychological effect on operators.

Price of Vehicles

As regards motor vehicle prices, he said: "This question has been referred to the Tariff Commission. If as a result of its findings it is possible to bring about a reduction we would have reduced the capital cost.

The Government had an open mind on the question of payment of compensation to permit-holders. They would take into consideration the views of the joint committee and private operators. He hoped the Bill, as it comes back from the select committee, would contain a satisfactory solution.

The Rajya Shabha on August 3 concurred with the Lok Sabha in referring the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill to a joint committee of the two Houses.

Road Freight Services

Mr. O. V. Alagesan, Deputy Minister for Transport, told the Rajya Sabha on August 23 that practically all the States had accepted the Planning Commission's advice not to nationalize road freight services during the second Five-Year Plan period. Some of the States, where it had already been nationalized, put forward plans for the expansion of transport but that was not approved, except in the case of the two hill States of Himachal Pradesh and Manipur.

Working Condition of Employees

Mr. Abid Ali, Deputy Minister fo Labour, informed the Lok Sabha on August 25 that the Government proposed to enact a comprehensive law for regulating the working conditions of motor transport employees.

World Bank Concern Over Transport Position

The World Bank Mission which recently visited India, in an informal memorandum submitted to the Government of India on "Indian Economic Problems and Policies", while generally approving the broad outline of India's development programmes, has expressed the view that the Second Five Year Plan is "somewhat too ambitious."

The Mission, in the memorandum which was placed on the table of the Lok Sabha on August 14, has expressed its concern over the transport situation in the country and has urged the Government to review its whole transport policy and programme with a view to minimizing transport by all available means—rail, roads, coastal shipping and inland waterways. The Mission feels that significant results can be achieved in the Indian railways by the adoption during the Second Plan period of more efficient and up-to-date methods of operation.

Truck Production Goes Up

The production of trucks by Tata Mercedes Benz at Jamshedpur had increased during 1956 and was expected to reach 6,000 per year by 1957, Mr. M. M. Shah, Minister for Heavy Industry, informed the Lok Sabha on August 9.

Overcrowding In Suburban Railways

Mr. C. V. Alagesan, Deputy Minister of Railways, replying to questions on the staggering of office working hours recommended by the committee that went into the problem of excessive overcrowding during the peak hours in suburban railway services at Bombay, Calcutta and Madras, said the Railway Ministry could not compel anyone to fix the office hours at a particular time. Mr. Alagesan said that already there was some staggering of working hours of offices. The Government would consider whether this could be extended. The Railways intended to apply the staggering of working hours first to their own offices in these cities, he said.

Ticketless Travel On Railways

Mr. O. V. Alagesan, Deputy Minister for Railway and Transport, in a written reply informed the Rajya Sabha on August 6 that the number of persons found travelling without tickets on Indian railways in 1955 was 7,365,219.

Terminal Tax On Railway Passengers

The Government of India had decided to enact genenral legislation empowering the Centre to levy terminal tax on railway passengers travelling to and from places of pilgrimage, fairs, melas and so on, Mr. O. V. Alagesan, Deputy Railway Minister, informed the Lok Sabha on August 3. Mr. Lal Bahadur Shastri, Railway Minister, said that such taxes were already being levied at some places. During the last year's Kumbh Mela at Allahabad and later at Hardwar, he recalled, there had been such terminal levies, which the vast number of pilgrims going to these places had gladly paid.

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Rickshaw Pulling Not To Be Abolished

The Deputy Labour Minister Mr. Abidali Jafarbhoy informed the Lok Sabha on August 30 that about 1,25,000 persons were engaged in the work of rickshaw-pulling throughout the country.

He said the State Governments were not yet thinking in terms of abolishing this form of manual labour.

Dislocation of Delhi Bus Service

There was serious dislocation of bus service in Delhi on August 29 owing to large-scale absenteeism by the workers of the Delhi Transport Service. In a statement Mr. B. K. Lal, General Manager of the D. T. S., said that out of 529 Conductors and 509 Drivers booked for duty that, day as many as 322 Conductors and 178 Drivers submitted leave applications, as against a maximum 80 employees going on leave on a normal day. With great difficulty a complete paralysis of the services was avoided, and by employing trained police personnel the D. T. S. was able to put on the road 182 buses out of 225 scheduled in the morning and 214 buses out of 262 scheduled in the evening. While the management pays at double the rate for work on any of the 23 days declared as paid holidays, the D. T. S. Union has been demanding payment at thrice the normal rates.

134 New Buses

Mr. O. V. Alagesan informed the Lok Sabha in July that no new buses had been purchased for the Delhi Transport Service during 1956-57 so far, but an order had been placed for 134 buses, which were expected to be delivered to the D. T. S. at the rate of about 15 buses a month, commencing from February, 1957.

Ticketless Travelling

The Delhi Road Transport Authority has obtained the services of a Magistrate who will be assisted by a squad of police and checking official [illegible] rity, to check ticketless travelling in the D. T. S. buses. The Magistrate will hold his court at various places in the city and prosecute the offenders on the spot under the DRTA (Carriage of Passengers) Regulations 1954 and the DRTA (Contravention of Regulation) Penalty Rules, 1954.

Travelling without tickets in the Delhi Transport Service is a legal offence, punishable with fine which may extend to Rs. 50 or simple imprisonment up to 15 days.

1,200 Taxis : Interim Ceiling

As a result of an understanding between representatives of the Delhi State Taxi Union and the State Transport Authorities, the latter have agreed to the fixation fo a ceiling on the number of taxis and charges. An interim ceiling of 1,200 taxis has been agreed upon after assessment of the public demand. The number of taxis now on the roads is 1,050. The Union representatives have expressed their willingness to fix a flat rate of 8 as. per mile, instead of 12 as. per mile in the case of small taxis, and 12 as. per mile instead of Re. 1 per mile in the case of big taxis. The present rate of 12 as. and Re. 1, respectively, for the first mile in the case of the two types of taxis will go and a uniform system will be introduced. The new fares came into force on August 15.

Road Transport Institute

The Madras Branch of the Indian Institute of Road Transport was inaugurated on August 3. Mr. M. Bhaktavatsalam, Minister for Agriculture and Labour, who inaugurated the Institute, stressed the need of taking steps to educate the public about road safety methods and to instruct drivers of fast moving vehicles to observe road regulations, so that there would be less number of road accidents.

West Bengal Electricity Board Losses

A net loss of Rs. 7,80,000 at the end of 1955-56 was revealed in the revised budget estimates of West Bengal Electricity Board, laid before the west Bengal Assembly on August 21. According to the estimates of the Board the net loss at the end of 1956-57 will be Rs. 22,21,200. The Electricity Board was constituted on May 1, 1955, and prior to its formation Electricity Develpment Directorate had been set up as an interim measure. The Directorate took over Barrackpore Electricity Supply Undertaking and implemented schemes of supplying energy to 16 rural places and semi-rural places under North Calcutta Rural Electrification Project. Cooch Bihar, Dinhata, Kurseong, Silguri, Santiniketan and Burdwan undertakings were taken over along with the extension of supply to Community Development areas. The Board after its formation took over Suri and Tamluk undertakings.

Electricity Shortage in Delhi

After the receipt of additional 10,000 k. w. supply from Nangal—the last instalment till 1960—and taking into acount 50,000 k. w. arleadly avialable, Delhi will be in short supply of about 30,000 k. w. To cope with acute shortage, local authorities have decided not to sanction any load for air-conditioning of offices and residences and domestic connections. The embassies were asked to curtail their requirements. The Planning Commission has under consideration a proposal of the State Government to set up a 20,000 k. w. thermal power station in Delhi, estimated to cost Rs. 2 crore.

Reduced Rates in Bombay Suburbs

The Bombay Suburban Electric Ltd. will reduce its rates for power in the suburbs to residential consumers for lights and fans and domestic purposes. The rate will be brought down to 2 annas nine pies with a further discount of quarter anna for payment. This will bring the rates still closer to those obtaining in Bombay City, which was more favorably placed on account of its compact nature and high concentration and of industrial and residential load.

Electricity Supply (Amendment) Bill

The Lok Sabha on August 14 referred the Electricity Supply (Amendment) Bill to a select committee. The Bill, among other things, seeks to raise by half percent (from 5 to 5½) the standard rate of "reasonable return" now allowed to the industry. The Minister for Irrigation and Power, Mr. Gulzarilal Nanda, explained that the purpose of the amending Bill was threefold. Firstly, it sought to increase the control of the State Governments over the activities of the State electricity boards in matters of policy. Secondly, it sought to increase by half percent the present rate of reasonable return to the industry. Thirdly, it tried to check certain abuses which had harmed the interest of the consumers in the past.

In 1948, when the principal Act was passed, the bank rate was 3 percent and the standard rate was fixed at 5 percent. The framers of the Act, therefore, appear to have contemplated a margin of 2% over the bank rate. It has been felt that due to the increase in the bank rate from 3 p. c. to 3½ p. c. an increase in the standard rate by ½ p. c. is justifiable and would be in conformity with the original intentions of the Act.

It was proposed to provide for reduction of rates by licensees in case their clear profits exceed the amount of reasonable return by 15 percent. Hitherto it was 30 percent.

Abuses

Among the abuses which the Bill sought to check, Mr. Nanda mentioned the following :—Charging by the licensees of managing agent's remuneration and office allowance in addition to the pay of a managing director or manager employed for the purpose of managing the undertaking; Charging interest on loan and debentures as an item of operating expenditure, in addition to the earning of "reasonable return'›

thereon, resulting in the earning of double return by the licensees; Earning "reasonable return" on amounts invested out of their depreciation reserve outside the business of electricity supply, in addition to the earning of interest or dividends thereon, resulting in earning of double return by the licensees; And earning by the licensees of "reasonable return" on security deposits of the consumere and assets financed out of the tariffs and dividend control reserve created out of consumers' money.

Czech Electrical Equipment for India

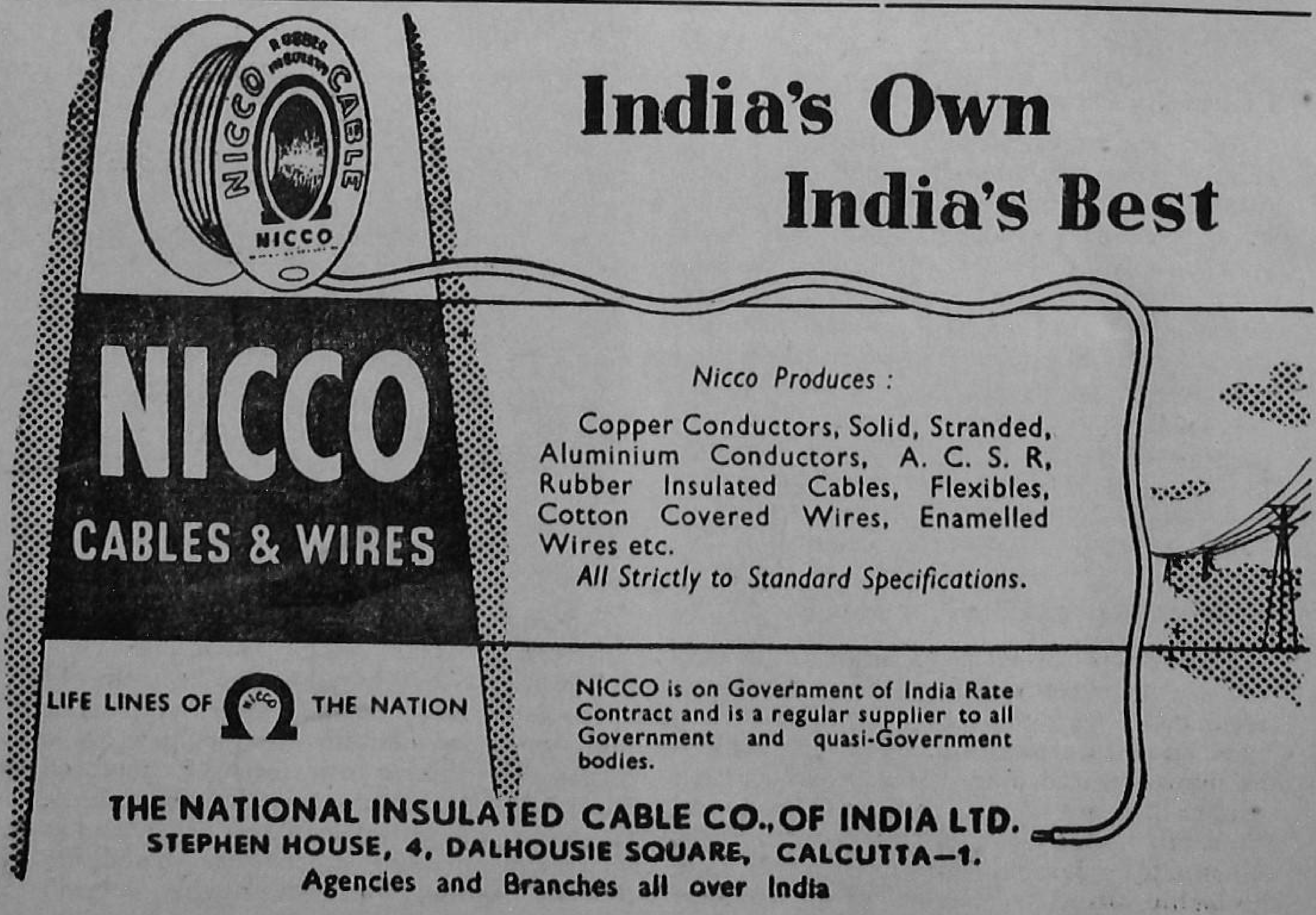
The Engineering Works at Blansko are suppliers of turbine runners for hydro-electric power plants all over the world. For Tungbhadra project in India also turbines have been ordered from Blansko.

Brno Engineering Works has also secured the contract in face of severe international competition for equipment for the Utran-Surat power plant. The Czechoslovak Technoexport, has already supplied the first part of the plant. The equipment for the power plant will be displayed by the Technoexport at the second Czechoslovak Engineering Exhibition at Brno.

Leading part in the exhibition is being taken by the Motokov, the Czechoslovak Corporation for import and exports of vehicles and light engineering products. The principal attraction of the export programme of the Motokov are passenger cars and lorries, motor bicycles, tractors and agricultural machines.

The Technoexport has also signed a contract for supply of a complete 1,000 ton sugar plant for Karlaguri in Assam. This will be the second plant to be supplied by them to India this year.

Zetor tractors already being imported in India will also be on exhibition at Brno.



United States' Embassy Building

Mr. Earl Warren, the U. S. Chief Justice, laid the cornerstone of the new Embassy building of the USA in Chanakyapuri, New Delhi, on September 1. The building, which is expected to be ready by early 1958, has been designed by Mr. Edward Stone, Professor of Architecture at Yale University and designer of the famous Radio City Music Hall in New York.

Mr. Earl Warren,
Chief Justice of U. S. A.

Standing on 28-acre flower-studded lawn, the new building will rise to two storeyes, complete with basement and underground parking arrangements. The structure, 400 ft. long and 89 ft. wide, will contain 100 large rooms to house the offices of Chancery. It will have an inner court and garden.

The building will cost two million dollars. It is being constructed by Mr. Mohan Singh Tirath, a New Delhi contractor, under the guidance of the supervising architect, Mr. Adolf K. N. Waterval a Swedish-born American, who is assisted by Mr. K. P. Sharma.

The building is not intended to be spectacular, it is functional. Mr. Stone who designed the building, visited India twice since 1954. He was required to design a most modern building representative of American advancement while at the same time fitting into a city of monuments and gardens.

Repairs to Jama Masjid

Details of the extensive repairs that have been undertaken at Jama Masjid in Delhi were given in the Rajya Sabha on August 9. It would take two to three years to complete the repairs.

The red sand stones are to be replaced by those of the best quality in cement mortar and they are to be fixed with copper and stone dowels.

Children's Museum

A national museum for children is to be established in Delhi. Details of the scheme are being worked out.

Museum In Khajuraho

The foundation-stone of a building to house the Vindhya Pradesh Museum at Khajuraho was laid on August 26 by Mr. Thirumala Rao, Lietinant-Governor of Vindhya Pradesh. The museum would house a collection of works of art and sculpture.

The Government of India have sanctioned Rs. 8 lakhs to develop Khajuraho, which has a number of temples of Gupta period, as a tourist centre.

Congress of Architects

The Fifth Congress of the International Union of Architects, to be held in Moscow in 1957, will discuss questions of city construction and reconstruction during the period 1945-57. Reports will be read by many prominent Soviet Architects and those from the United States, China, France, West Germay and other countries. Several architectural exhibitions will also be organised, one of them being devoted to Soviet city construction.

Sculpture

Martyr's Memorial: Tallest Bronze Group In Asia

The martyrs' memorial that is being erected in front of the Patna Secretariat in memory of the seven young man, who were killed in the police firing in their attempt to hoist the National Flag there on August 11, 1942, will be the tallest group composition in bronze of the human form in Asia and possibly in the world, it is learnt. Executed by the renowned Indian artist and sculptor, Mr. D.P. Roy Choudhury, the memorial graphically depicts the incident. The Bihar Government has sanctioned Rs. 3 lakhs towards the cost of the memorial.

It took 22 months to complete the bronze statues in Madras. The statues weigh 20 tons and are being installed on a 20 feet high pedestal.

The memorial depicts seven life-size youngmen marching with grim determination towards the Secretariat to unfurl there the tricolor flag, held aloft by the leader of the group.

Statue of Liberty

A resolution demanding erection of a "Statue of Liberty" in Delhi in memory of those who fell while fighting for the freedom of the country was passed at a meeting held under the auspices of the Delhi State Praja Socialist Party on August 9.

Fourteen years ago on this day the Quit India Movement was started under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi. In this struggle for freedom millions of people participated and many hundreds lost their lives. It was essential to honour those who died for the freedom of the country by erecting a statue in their memory.

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New Community Development Ministry

A new ministry to be known as the Ministry of Community Development has been created by the Union Government from September 17.

Mr. Surendra Kumar Dey, at present Community Projects Administrator, will be in charge of the new ministry. He will be a minister of cabinet rank but not a member of the cabinet.

The press note from the cabinet secretariat on the creation of the new ministry said that, having regard to the growing magnitude and importance of Community Projects work, it had been found necessary to place the Community Project Administration under a separate ministry. This would, the press note added, involve no major change in the internal organization of the Community Projects Administration. The new ministry would work in full co-operation with the Ministry of Food and Agriculture and would, when necessary, take advantage of the resources of that ministry. The Minister for Food and Agriculture would be responsible for coordinating the work of the new ministry with that of his ministry. The central committee for the Community Projects Administration would continue to function as until now.

Community Development work During Second Plan

State Governments are now drawing up their programmes for starting new National Extension Service and Community Development Blocks in their areas during the Second Plan period.

The entire country will be covered by the National Extension Service by the end of 1960-61, and Rs. 200 crores have been allocated for the purpose. An overall programme for the entire country was discussed at the fifth Development Commissioners' Conference at Nainital, and approved by the Central Committee of the Planning Commission. The State Governments' programmes are being drawn up in the light of these decisions and recommendations.

One of the salient features of the overall programme is that not less than 40 per cent of the 3,800 new N.E.S. Blocks to be started during the second Plan period would be converted into Community Development Blocks of the more intensive type.

So far 1,160 N.E.S. and Community Development Blocks have been allotted, and work has started in all of them. They cover 1,57,347 villages and a population of 88.8 million. In another 266 Blocks which have also been allotted, work will start from October 2, 1956. In the meantime preliminary work, involving expenditure up to a ceiling of Rs. 10,000 per Block, is being undertaken therein.

The actual allotment of Blocks (both Community Development and National Extension Service) to the various States depends on the progress of work, people's response to the programme, the availability of fully trained personnel and other relevant factors. In regard to the conversion of National Extension Service Blocks into Community Development Blocks, the intention is that no such Block, which will have worked for a full period of three years, would remain unconverted, provided it has reached the level of performance considered suitable for the purpose. Actual allotment of Blocks will continue to be made by the Central Committee.

Financial Allocations For Programmes

As the whole of the country is to be covered by the National Extension Service by the end of 1960-61 and the total allotment made for this programme during the Second Plan period is Rs. 200 crores, the amount to be spent in each of the Blocks has been slightly reduced. The revised estimated expenditure for a period of three years will be Rs. 12 lakhs for a Community Development Block instead of Rs. 15 lakhs and Rs. 4 lakhs for a National Extension Service Block instead of

Rs. 4½ lakhs. All N.E.S. and Community Development Blocks started after April, 1956, will work on this revised budgetary pattern.

In order to keep up the tempo of work in the Community Development Blocks which will have completed their period of operation during the second Five Year Plan, a provision of Rs. 30,000 per annum per Block has been made for a period of three years. Of this amount Rs. 5,000 will be spent on Education and Rs. 25,000 on Local Works.

An 'Ad hoc' provision of Rs. 5 crores has been made for certain special items like model villages, sample surveys, pilot projects, research, publications etc.

It has also been recommended that there should be a Block Level Extension Officer (Cottage Industries) for each N.E.S. Block. These officers will first be posted in the Community Development Blocks.

Role of Advisory Committees

Following the 5th Development Commissioners' Conference at Nainital, more and more attention is being paid to association of non-officials in development works. It is felt that the entire responsibility for planning and execution of the plans may be entrusted to non-officials in the post-intensive stage, and that the official machinery should develop and activise popular institutions during the programme period, so that these institutions might take over the entire responsibility at that stage.

The Project and Block Advisory Committees have a specific role to play in the implementation of the Five Year Plan. In the Community Development Programme during the post-intensive phase, one of their main functions will be to advise on the formulation and approval of sehemes under local works and social education.

Efforts will be made to develop these Committees into self-reliant and motivating institutions of the people in the Blocks, so that they can fit into the local self-government pattern of the future.

Mr. Strachey's Tribute To N.E.S.

Mr. John Strachey, the British Socialist M. P., in a note, which has been circulated by the Planning Commission, referring to India's Five Year Plan says the initial National Extension Service scheme to him seem incomparably the most valuable thing which American technical know-how and social idealism had given to India. The Indian service is modelled quite closely, considering the wide difference of conditions, on the American Agricultural Extension Service. The Indian N.E.S. is an attempt to cover the whole face of India with an agricultural service which will provide the peasants, with artificial fertilisers, improved seeds, improved hand agricultural implements, and in many cases, improved irrigation, and above all teach the peasents how to use these improvements as they become available. It is proposed under the Plan, to cover the whole of India, with this service by the end of the Second Plan.

Mr. Strachey says: "Led by a dynamic figure, Mr. S.K. Dey, the N.E.S. struck me as the most important single feature of Indian social and economic effort today."

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West Bengal Panchayats Bill

West Bengal Assembly on August 25 passed by 124 votes to 43 the much debated West Bengal Panchayats Bill, which seeks to establish Gram Panchayats, Anchal Panchayats and Nyaya Panchayats. The Bill was introduced last year and 16 sittings of the House were needed to see it through.

The Opposition while agreeing with the Government in principle that village panchayats should be set up for village self-administration, feared that the provisions of the Bill were not sufficiently democratic. Mr. Bankim Mukerji (Communist) said the Government seemed to be suspicious of the people.

Mr. I. D. Jalan, Local Self-Government Minister, replying to the debate on the last day and defending the restrictions placed on the Panchayats said that as constitutionally functions were divided between the Centre and the States, all responsibility for State subjects lay with the State Govt. If the State Government decided to delegate some functions and responsibilities to self-governing units like Village Panchayats, it was essential to provide adequate safeguards against misuse of powers. That was why the powers of Panchayats had been made subject to the directives of the "prescribed authority".

Moreover, they were aware of the maladministration in many municipalities in the State, not excepting Calcutta Corporation. Whenever any municipality was superseded people had appreciated the Government action. Safeguards, therefore, were essential, Mr. Jalan said.

Referring to the Opposition suggestion that Government should be content with providing the Panchayats with funds, and leaving them alone, Mr. Jalan said "that would herald not democracy but mobocracy."

During the third reading of the Bill the Congress members hailed the measure as implementing the directive principles of the Constitution. The Opposition maintained that it would serve the political interests of the ruling party.

There will be some 18,000 Gram Panchayats and 3,300 Anchal Panchayats. The Secretaries of the Anchal Panchayats, who will be its executive officers will be appointed by the Government. In defending the arrangement, Mr. Jalan said the elected members will be the policy making body and the Secretary will be the independent executive.

Local Development Work Through Panchayats

The West Bengal Government has concurred with the view of the Executive Committee of the Central Council of Local Self-Government on which almost all States are represented through their Local Self-Government Ministers that local development work should be entrusted to village panchayats.

The Executive Committee of the Central Council of Local Self-Government at its last meeting in Bombay, however, did not favour the Planning Commission's proposal to set up Vikash Mandals at village level for the execution of local development projects. The Executive Committee, of which the Union Health Minister is the Chairman, argued that the object of the establishment of Vikash Mandals— to associate local people with development work— could well be achieved by entrusting such work to village panchayats, which were elected bodies.

In Saurashtra and many other States village panchayats are already functioning as an effective agency in raising local contributions and carrying out development projects.

Rural Institutes of Higher Education

Ten Rural Institutes of higher education are to be established in India. The first institute was inaugurated in August at the Jamia Millia, Delhi, with 55 students.

Local Bodies In Second Plan

Mr. G. R. Ekbote's Address

Mr. Gopal Rao Ekbote Minister for Local Government, in his address inaugurating the Conference of the Mayors and Commissioners of Corporations and Presidents and Executive Officers of the Municipalities of the Hyderabad State on August 4 in Aurangabad, said that in view of the impending trifurcation of the State, which would have affected the services of local bodies, as different systems prevailed in the neighbouring States, through a proper legislation Local Government Service had been declared a Government Service. This step of Hyderabad Government had lent stability and security to the Local Government Services and would also attract talented persons to these services. All the matters concerning the services had been placed under the Public Service Commission to ensure fairness in appointments and promotions.

Reshaping of Local Bodies

Pre-requistes for an efficient and effective administration of local bodies, Mr. Ekbote said, were progressive legislation, suitable finances and availability of qualified and trained personnel and team work of the local bodies. To attain these, various steps were taken in the Hyderabad State in the last few years and the local bodies had been completely re-shaped to accept total responsibility. Through most progressive legislation autonomous powers had been vested in all local bodies. The Hyderabad Municipal Corporation Act, the Hyderabad District Boards Act and the Hyderabad Gram Panchayats Act had already received the President's assent and were in force. The President's assent for the Hyderabad Public Service Commission (Extension of Functions) Bill, the Hyderabad Municipalities Bill, the Hyderabad Local Government Service (Declaration as State Service) Bill, and other measures was now awaited.

Continuing, Mr. Ekbote said though it was generally felt that to make the Second Five Year Plan a real People's Plan greater responsibility should be assigned to the local bodies in the formulation of the Plan and in its execution, and the Hyderabad State and

Sri Gopal Rao Ekbote,
Minister for Local Govt. Hyderabad State

some other States had taken steps in this direction, it was regrettable that no definite place of greater responsibility had been assigned to the local bodies in the Second Five Year Plan.

Community Development

Though the Planning Commission had repeately observed that the Community Development was the method and the Rural Extension the agency through which the First Five Year Plan should seek to initiate a process of transformation of the social life of the villa-

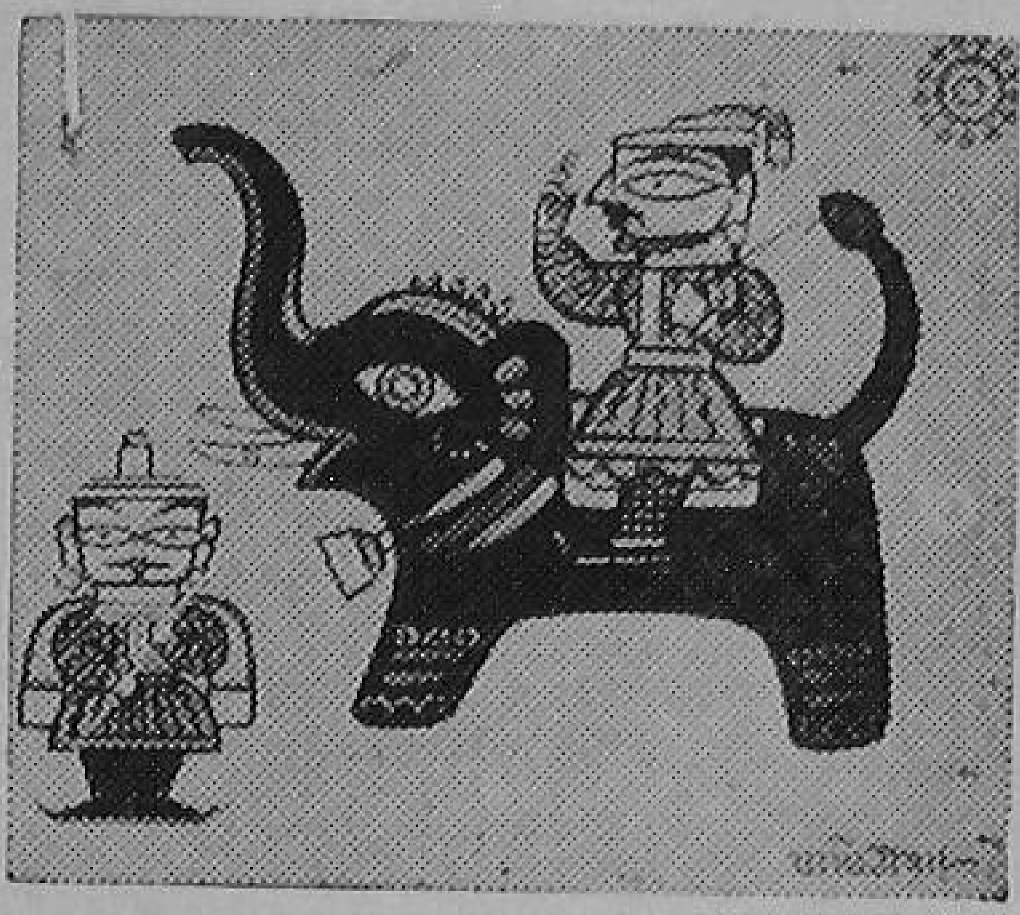
ges, the Community Projects and N.E.S. Blocks were not yet established in many rural areas. At present the development activity carried through the N.E.S. Blocks and Community Projects, though based on the need of the community, did not sufficiently enthuse the rural folk as no part of funds was administered through these local bodies. This assumed much signficance as the scheme of Community Projects would not be a permanent feature, though some of its personnel would continue to work at the village level. It was, therefore, important that some permanent arrangement for maintaining development works should be made. Immediate steps should be taken to so strengthen local bodies that with the help of Community Projects Administration, these permanent bodies are made capable of assuming total responsibility.

It was from this point of view, Mr. Ekbote said, it was hoped that the Second Five Year Plan would give some shape to the local bodies and it was distressing to find that no place had been assigned to the local bodies in the Second Plan.

Local Self-Government had been recognised as an integral part of the national administrative machinery and it was increasingly realised that this branch of administration must eventually take charge of the expanding social services. The third report on the working of the Community Projects had also stated that for the carrying out of development work on any continuing basis, only a representative body like the Panchayat should be made responsible and all efforts should be made to create and stregthen these institutions, yet no steps were being taken to see that the permanent administration of development functions is transferred to these lacal bodies.

Finances

As the local bodies were bound to assume greater significance, it was necessary to strengthen them Mr. Ekbote said. It must be understood that the local bodies must to a large extant find their own finances to effectively meet the local requirements.



UNICEF Greeting Card

A trumpeting blue elephant and two youths in masquerade costume, suggestive of the colour and fascination of West Bengal, is embodied in this unique greeting card designed by the internationally famous Indian artist Jamini Roy and donated for the benefit of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

Sufficient sources of income had been made available under the new Acts to the local bodies in Hyderabad State. To improve their finances certain taxes had been made obligatory and others as discretionary. If proper action was taken by the local bodies their finances need not be so precarious as they were. It must be very clearly understood that no local body would be in a position to give civic amenities to the people unless it had funds to do so.

Finding Personnel

The Local Government Service, which had now been declared State Civil Service, included both technical and administrative personnel who had gained sufficient experience. There was, however, a shortage of technical personnel, to meet the need of growing development works. So far as administrative personnel was concerned, a Training Centre with a Diploma Course in Local Self-Government, affiliated to the Institute of Local Self-Government, Bombay, had been opened in Hyderabad in 1955. In the first session

(Continued on next page)

Importance Of Local Self-Government

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur's Views

The Union Health Minister, Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, who presided, over the third sitting of the Public Forum of Delhi Municipal Committee on August 3, at which the Japanese Ambassader was the principal speaker, said she believed firmly that local self-government was the pivot of government in any country and that good

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur,
Union Health Minister.

government depended on how well from the smallest unit of local self-government upwards this vital limb of governance functioned. She further believed that no unit of local self-government could function as it should unless those who served on it had true civic sense.

She said that if there was no legislature in an area it did not follow that whatever new set-up was created there would be no chance for every citizen to grow to his full stature. Indeed it was the good life of the citizens, both individually and collectively, that was the mainstay of the village the community, the city and the State.

The Health Minister said that she had the privilege of having a long talk with the Mayor of New York City recently. The Mayor of this city had very important duties. He had various committees to deal with different civic matters. In her opinion he was a far more important person than a member of the legislature of the Government under whom he worked. Washington was run by three Commissioners chosen by the Federal Government from among outstanding citizens and a Planning Board saw to the proper development of the city as regards buildings and the removal of slum areas. She was aware that in India, as in other countries, political parties put up their own candidates for seats for local bodies. She herself would prefer these institutions to be run by the best men and women of the area rather than on party lines. In any case, once they were there, they should function absolutely above party lines. This was what was done in the advanced countries of the world and should be done here too.

She was of the view that the sphere of work for human well-being was nowhere greater than in local self-government. It was her earnest prayer that they should pay more attention to success in this administration and hoped that the citizens of Delhi would so administer their affairs in the new set-up as to be a model for local bodies elsewhere.

(Continued from previous page)

80 candidates were trained and another 85 had joined the second session.

Concluding, Mr. Ekbote said that the first pre-requisite of an efficient local body was the high standard of efficiency and honesty of the administration.

Special Feature

Kanpur Civic Administration

Achievements And Targets

The process of consolidation of freedom by imparting meaning and content to the concept is the vital function of civic government. This process has been in evidence throughout the length and breadth of our vast country at the district, city and taluka levels during the past five years. In the Second Five Year Plan period from this year onwards special responsibilities have been placed upon the local bodies for sewerage, water supply, public health, medical relief, housing and cognate schemes, aiming at improving the standard of living of the common citizen. Conscious of the all too meagre resources of the local bodies the recent meeting of the Central Council of Local Self-Government Ministers at Ootacamund urged upon the Central Government to substantially increase the subventions for subsidizing and financing these projects. The recent Parliamentary enactment for the levy of terminal tax on visits to urban and pilgrimage centres is a welcome measure in this context.

Mr. M. A. Quraishi, *I. C. S.*,
Kanpur's present Civic Administrator

Kanpur city, too, is pursuing its development and expansion of civic services under the Five Year Plan. The process of fixing targets year by year instead of for a five year period is inherent in the character and composition of the civic administration. Accordingly, the purpose of this survey is to view the progress made during the current financial year till the end of July, and the expectation of achievement by its end. Keeping the various civic services in proper trim and expanding them to serve more areas and people are the objectives of the Civic Administration, determined by the increase in the number of houses, increased industrial and commercial activity, provision of more roads and drains and sewers, water supply lines and connections, parks, schools, dispensaries and hospitals, road transport and other amenities and services due to the rapid expansion of this great city of the north.

A brief reference to the financial position of the municipal board for the past four years starting with July 1953 to date would help to view things in proper perspective. The figures given below are eloquent :—

Financial position at a glance on

	1-7-1953 Rs.	1-7-1954 Rs.	1-7-1955 Rs.	1-7-1956 Rs.
Deficit	Rs. 15,277	Nil	Nil	Nil
Board's surplus	nil	Rs. 3,41,590	Rs. 11,29,099	Rs. 2,03,392
Invested funds	1,02,500	1,02,500	1,02,500	9,02,500
Liabilities to pay	82,172	62,415	70,040	99,389
Prescribed minimum balance	6,00,000	6,00,000	6,00,000	6,00,000
Net deficit	5,94,949	2,18,325	Nil	Nil
Net surplus	Nil	Nil	5,61,559	4,06,503

From the above it is clear that from a deficit of about Rs. 6 lacs, at the beginning of July 1953 the municipal finance has been rehabilitated and shows a surplus of over Rs. 4 lakhs at the end of July 1956.

Public Works Department

The budget provision for the Public Works Department for the current year is Rs. 20 lakhs. Work worth Rs. 3,12,844 has been done till the end of July. The construction of a hospital in Govindnagar estimated to cost Rs. 1,50,000 is in progress and is expected to be complete by January next year to start functioning on the Republic Day. Repairs to other hospitals are nearing completion. The construction of a slaughter house for small animals in the P and T block of the Factory Area is complete, the estimated cost being Rs. 39,000. The construction of two schools in Carvalho Nagar and Parampurwa has also been provided for at an estimated cost of Rs. 1 lakh, which provision also includes repairs to all municipal schools. A sum of Rs. 1 lakh has been provided for the construction of 30 urinals, 10 rubbish depots and general repairs to the public latrines. Till July only Rs. 5,478 had been spent, and this programme is to be vigorously pursued during the coming months. Drainage capital outlay for laying sewers in the P block, Sisamau and small sewers in other areas is estimated at Rs. 49,000, while drainage and sewers maintenance will cost Rs. 1 lakh 56 thousand to the Municipal Board. The Board has also to construct 125 shops in Hatia, Bajaria Sisamau and near the Government High School and the work on these is in progress.

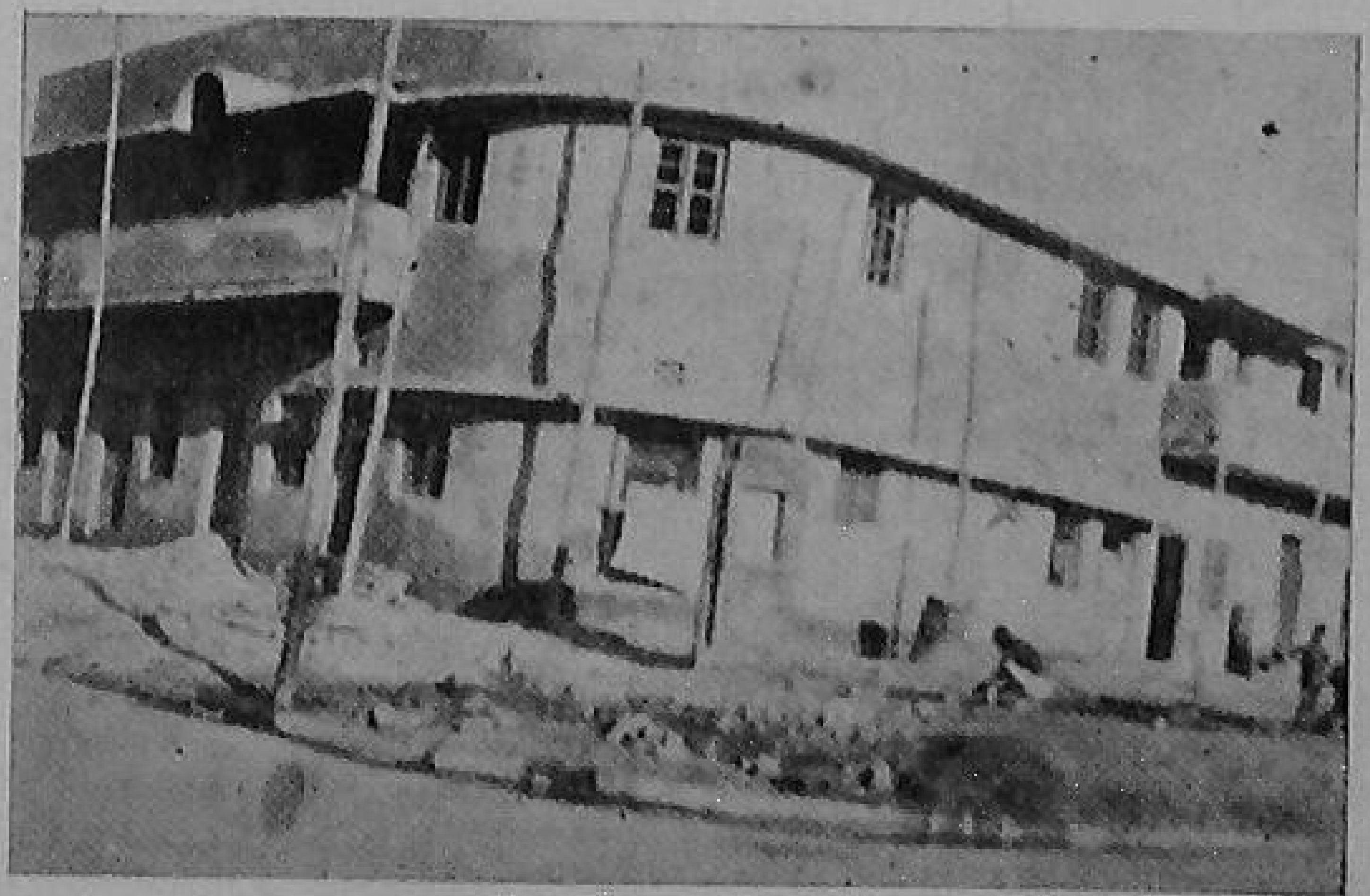
A provision of Rs. 1,26,000 has been made for repairs to all municipal parks and their maintenance. Ganesh Udyan, Nana Rao Park (Memorial Well Gardens) and the Brijendra Swarup Park are maintained out of this provision, the expenditure till July having amounted to Rs. 40,000. It is the intention of the Board to provide childrens' play apparatus to such parks in the city as have suitable accommodation for them, and to add to the existing apparatus wherever necessary, for healthy growth of our future citizens. Citizens' co-operation in the proper maintenance of the parks and use of these apparatus is invited.

The Municipal Board is also constructing quarters for sweepers at Gwaltoli, Chunniganj, Babupurwa and Juhi. Those at Babupurwa are complete, consisting of 30 double roomed tenements, and the construction at Gwaltoli is soon to finish. The Municipal Board's own contribution to this will be Rs. 2,40,000, the provision also including repairs to all municipal Buildings except hospitals.

Road and Footpaths

The Mahatma Gandhi Road between the

Sweepers' slums in Khalasi Lines. The occupants are to shift to the pucca block of quarters (opposite).



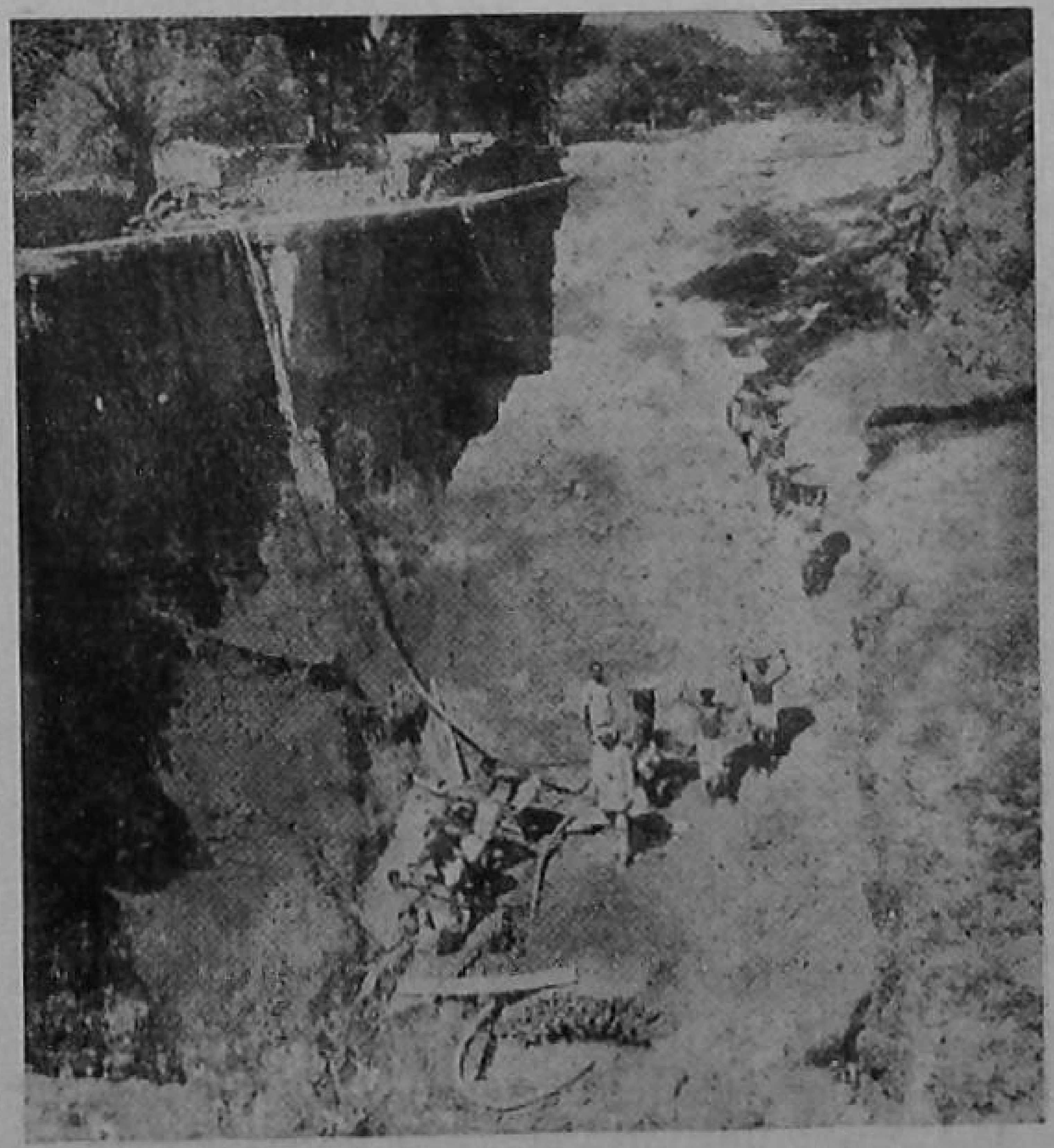
Block of new quarters for sweepers in Khalasi Lines constructed by Kanpur Civic Administration.

two crossings of Phool Bagh is being widened, and will have a car park. It is also intended to further widen the portion of this road from the Phool Bagh to the Allahabad Bank Crossing. The Orphanage Road from the Agriculture College gate to the Central Roadways Workshop crossing is also to be widened. The N road will be similarly treated. Other roads to be widened are the Nayagunj Road and the Juhi Road. The Cotton Mill Road will be shell creted with a 2″ layer. Road *patries* in Darshanpurwa will be paved, the roads in Govindnagar will be improved, while roads around Collectorgunj, the sugar mill road, the southern road in Babupurwa upto the Labour Colony will be reconstructed. The lanes in the old mohals of the city such as Generalgunj, Hatia, Bengali Mohal, Chowk, Harbans Mohal, Patkapur, Fazalgunj, etc. will be repaired.

Over the various development schemes in the Factory Area the Southern City, Sisamau, Pechbagh Dalelpurwa, Raipurwa and the Sisamau Nala, there is a budget provision of Rs. 24,13,000 and the Municipal Engineer is in charge of these. Under this programme work is in progress in Govindnagar, P and T Blocks of the Factory Area, Kakadeo, Narainpur, Juhi, Carvalhonagar and the Building Materials Market in Juhi where the city's building materials and allied trades have to be shifted. Other items include the construction of roads in the Hasau Ka Ahata and the improvement of the drainage system of the Hariharnath Shastri Nagar, extension of water supply and provision of roads in the Low Income Group Housing Colony in Babupurwa. The work at Sewagram lying between the railway lines to Jhansi and Delhi near Govindnagar has been stopped as the Railway authorities require the site for their own use. Work on all the items mentioned above is in progress. The construction of two model houses in Babupurwa Low Income Group Housing Scheme and of the primary school building, the laying out of the Kidwai Park are important works in the Southern City Extension Scheme. Another important achievement is the construction of 30 two-roomed quarters for sweepers constructed out of Rs. 7 lakhs provided by the Government for sweepers' housing programme in Kanpur. It is intended to utilise this grant for construction of similar houses in other parts af the city during the current and succeeding years. A little over Rs. 4 lakhs has been spent over the development works on schemes, and the balance of Rs. 19,50,000 will be utilized during the remaining part of the year.

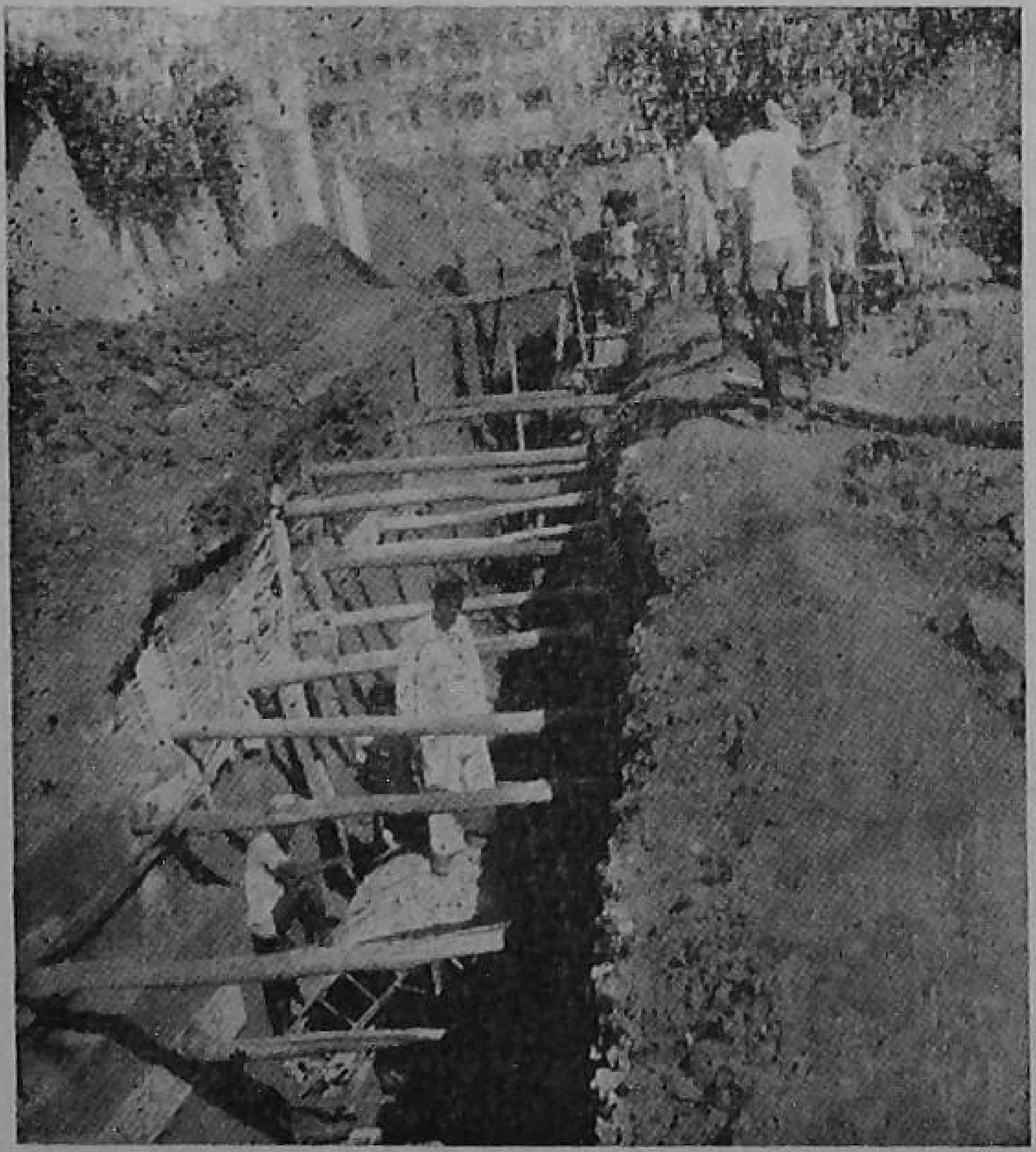
Sewerage and Drains

The Adminstration has on hand a comprehensive scheme for the reorganization and extension of the city's sewerage. It is interlinked with the scheme for the utilization of sewage for growing more food under a grant from the Government of India. The estimated cost of the scheme is Rs. 75 lakhs for construction of trunk sewers and it involves construction of about 27 miles of sewer length, out of which about 9 miles have been completed at a cost of Rs. 15,59,771. The comprehensive scheme including branch and minor sewers is estimated to cost Rs. 1.45 crores. The estimated cost of work in hand is Rs.



A view of sewer construction in Nanarao Park, Kanpur.

35.5 lakhs budgeted for the current year. The obvious advantage of the scheme to the citizens will be the prevention of the pollution of Ganga water at several points along its bank and, consequently, improvement in the health and sanitation of the city. Further, all the overworked present sewers will be relieved of their burden, and the greatly expanded city will have an efficient sewer system at its service. The work is financed out of a loan given by the Government (Rs. 40 lakhs) under the Five Year Plan and another application for further Rs. 35 lakhs has been made. By the end of the current financial year four contracts for part of the work will be through, and the remaining work will take another year. The sewage utilization project has been financed through two loans totalling Rs. 22.25 lakhs. Its aim is to utilise the city's sewage for irrigating agricultural and *usar* land for growing food crops and vegetables, after diluting the sewage with Ganga water on 50:50 basis. At present about 2500 acres of land are irrigated with 6 million gallons of sewage effluent. The target is to irrigate about 15,000 acres on the completion of the scheme when some 30 million gallons of effluent will be available for the purpose. Steps are under way for a contour survey of the land east of the sewage farm on the basis of which to work out further detailed proposals. The current year's budget for the sewage utilization project is Rs. 7 lakhs. The major items of work here are the construction of culverts and the regulating arrangements on the main and minor channels, fixing of a mechanical screen, provision of raw water intake channels, installation of raw water pumping sets and erection of sewage pumping plants. Preliminary work had been started when the rains set in. Further work is soon to be resumed.



Aonther view of sewer construction in the civil lines, under the comprehensive project financed by a Government loan under the Five Year Plan.

Mr. B. D. Sanwal, *I. C. S.,*

former Civic Administrator of Kanpur, who initiated the big watersupply and sewerage reorganization projects.

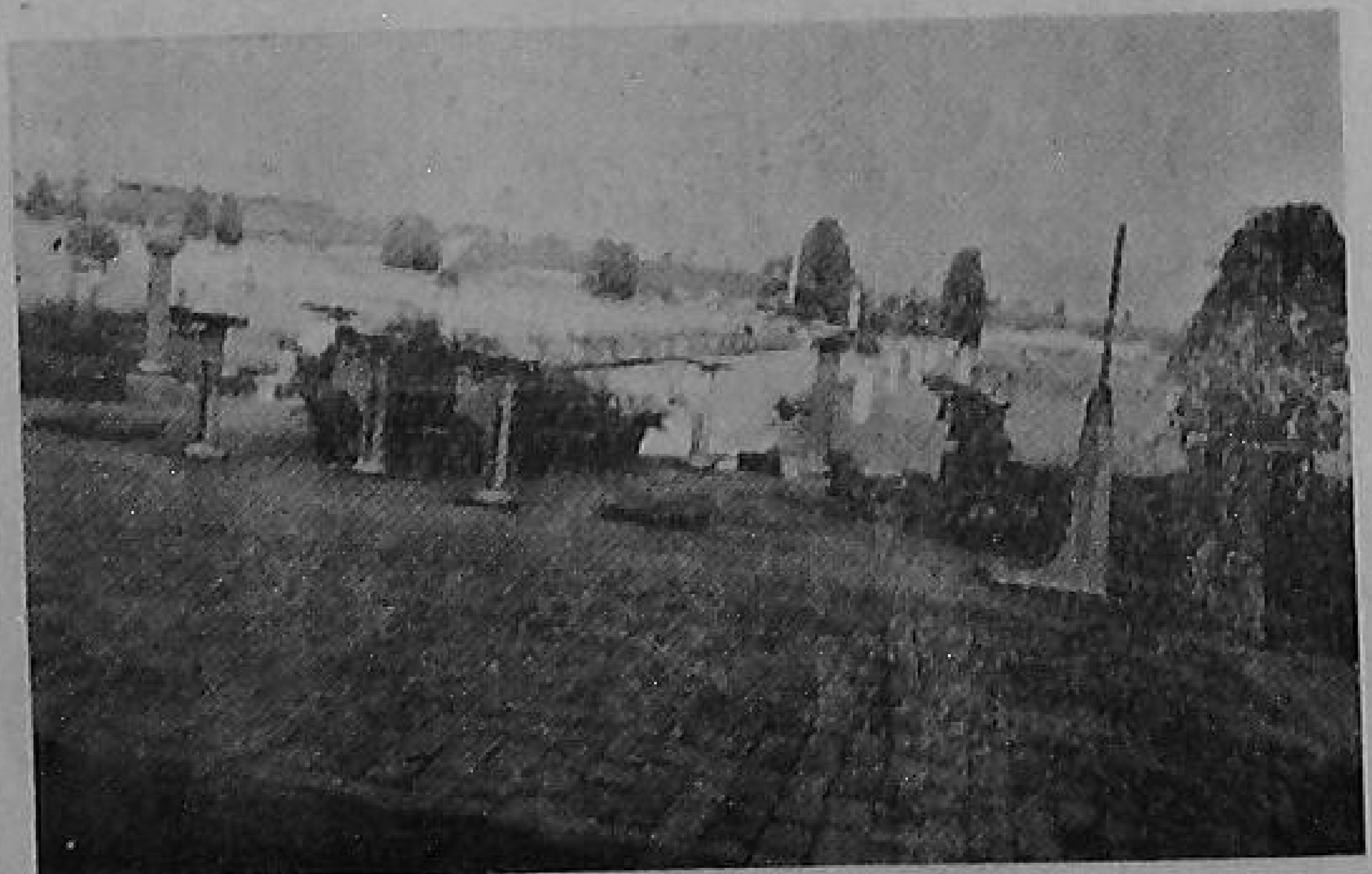
Water Supply Reorganization

The Water Supply Reorganization scheme is financed through loans from the Government of India, and is estimated to cost Rs. 3.13 crores. It aims at supplying 60 million gallons per day piped water to an estimated population of 12 lakhs of Greater Kanpur, at the rate of 45 gallons per head. By the end of March 1956 work costing Rs. 43.6 lakhs had been done, and further work worth Rs. 4.70 lakhs has been done

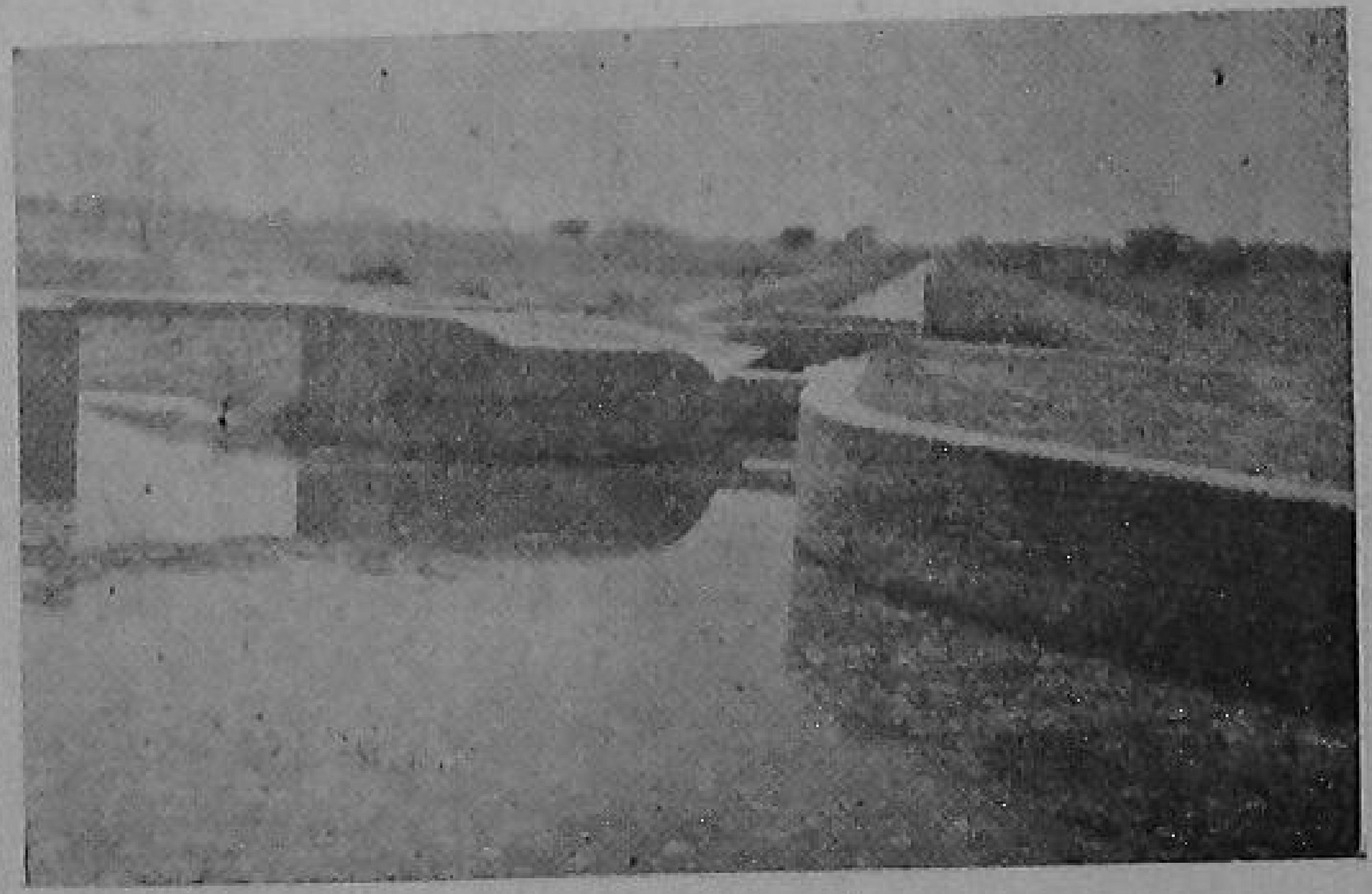
till the end of July. This has included installation of 2 fifteen m.g.d. capacity pumps and laying of 48″ rising mains, 2 twenty-four m.g.d. pumping plants, provision of 36″-30″-16″ C. I. rising mains to serve zone nos. 7 and 18, increased filtration pumping capacity through four pumping plants, and construction of new zone pumping stations and reservoirs in Kakadeo, Old Kanpur, Narainpur, Kalpi Road, Juhi and Babupurwa. The programme ahead for the completion of the first phase of reorganisation will mean work worth Rs. 50 lakhs, and will include one 18 m. g. d. filter plant with floculator and clarifier and a clean-water reservoir of 5 m. g. d. There will also be two more zone pumping stations for the Eastern Extension scheme and the Cantonments. At the end of this phase of the programme, the water supply will increase from the present 25 m. g. d. to 40 m. g. d. and piped water supply from the city's water supply undertaking will reach places as far away as Chakeri. In addition to the loan of Rs. 40 lakhs received from Government, another Rs. 78.85 lakhs is needed for prosecuting this programme, and Government have been requested to advance this amount in two instalments, viz. Rs. 40 lakhs for the current year and Rs.38.85 lakhs for the year 1957-58. The Administration is aware of the problem of meagre pressure of water in the summer months, particularly in the old parts of the city where a partial solution lies in replacement of the present mains, through a phased programme. Even so, a more copious supply of water which will be available through reorganisation, it is expected, will also help to solve the problem. The possibility of introducing booster pumps at some points will also be considered.

Labour Housing

The Labour Housing Division has a budget provision of Rs. 50 lakhs for the current year. The Division has so far constructed, in four phases, 4,732 single roomed and 660 double roomed tenements at a cost of Rs. 53,54,600. During the first four months of the current financial year, 588 quarters in the Hariharnath Shastri Nagar and 270 in the Benajhabar have been completed and handed over to the Labour Department. Finishing touches are being given to the 942 tenements in Old Kanpur. Steps are under way to provide electricity and water supply to the colony. Under the fourth phase, construction of 162 single roomed tenements and 36 double roomed ones has been started at Benajhabar and Rukmini Devi Ka Ahata. Because of certain delays and difficulties in the acquisition of sites in the Civil Lines, the question of constructing the bulk of



A view of Kanpur Waterworks, which is under reorganisation to provide 60 m.g. daily supply to the city under Five Year Plan.



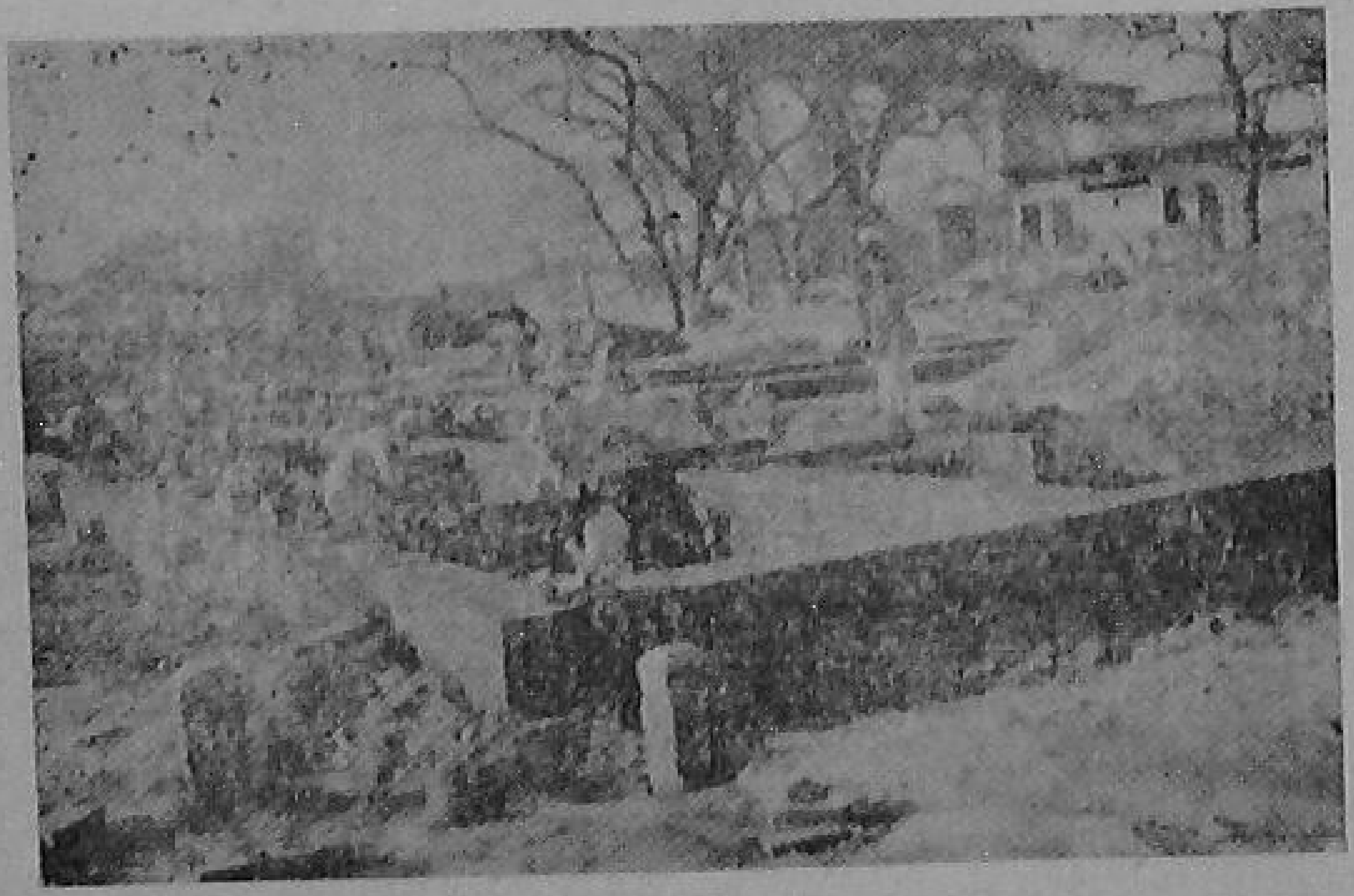
Kanpur's sewage irrigation canal system complements the comprehensive sewerage reorganization and extension project, now under implementation.

tenements under the fourth phase in the new Industrial Area in the Eastern Extension Scheme near Jajmau is under active consideration.

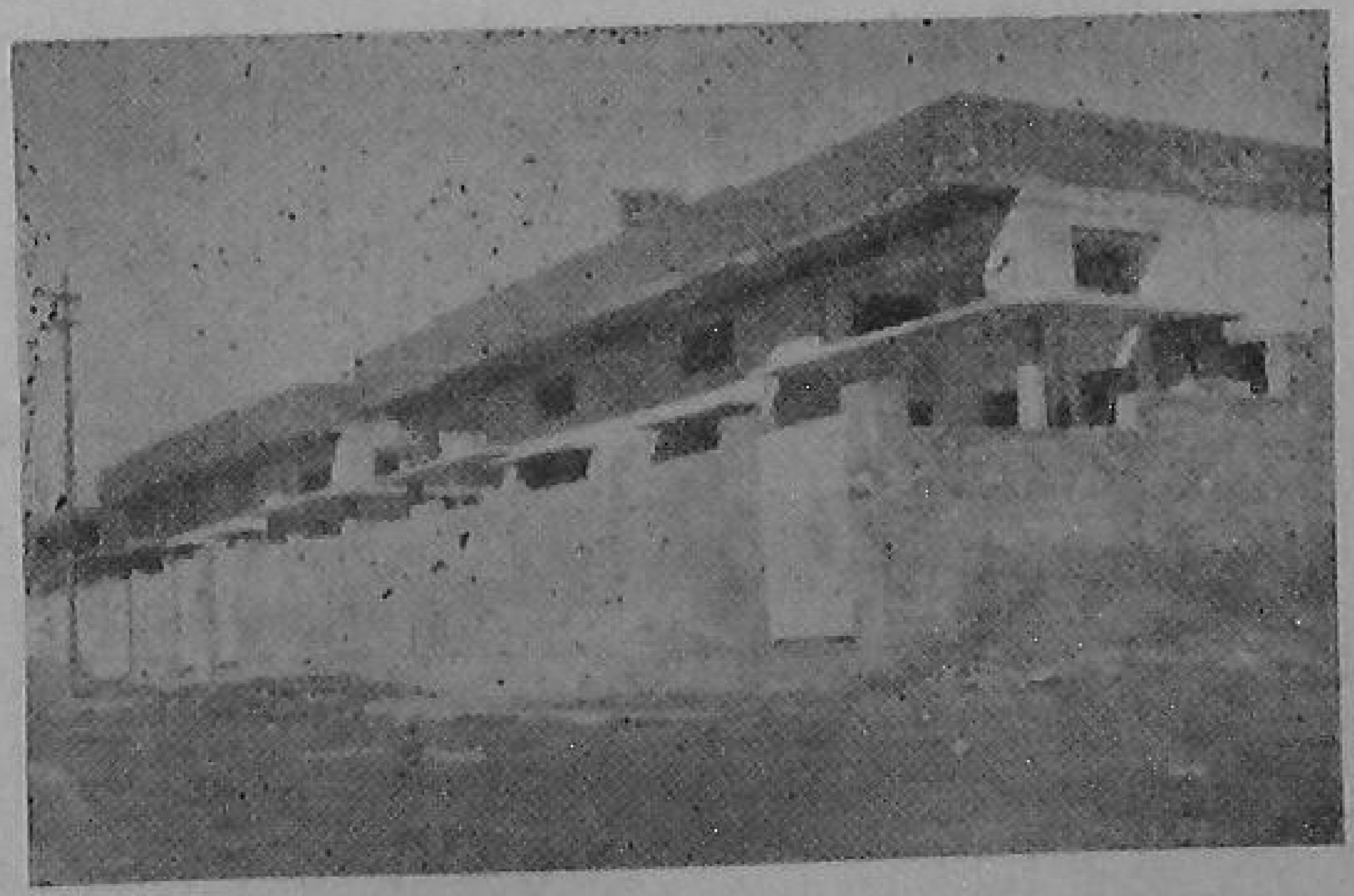
The Old Kanpur Scheme is mainly developing as a residential housing area for citizens of lower middle and middle classes employed in the city's schools colleges and Government offices, and pursuing the liberal professions. The development works in the scheme are estimated to cost Rs. 42.2 lakhs. The budget provision for the current year is Rs. 6.3 lakhs and work worth Rs. 2.88 lakhs has been done during the past four months. A gross area of 116 acres has been developed in the western half of this scheme, the area for sale under plots being 60 acres. In the eastern half, the gross development area is 96.4 acres, and that for sale under plots is 37 acres. For industrial labour housing an area of 25.5 acres has been utilized in the eastern half of this scheme. Of the 250 plots available for sale here, about 60 have been allotted to Government sarvants. About 2 mile-length of the Ganga Marg promenades this scheme area, and is under construction. Of this 120ft. wide road, a length of about 4,000ft. is complete with painting and tree plantation. Near the Brijendra Swarup Park, the Development Board's old storeyard of about 7 acres has been redeveloped into residential plots. Of the 70 plots, 46 have been allotted at rates varying from Rs. 15 to 17 per sq. yd. In the Kakadeo Scheme, all plots have been sold out to the members of the Pandunagar Cooperative Housing Society at the rate of Rs. 6/- per sq. yad. on no profit no loss basis. Building construction in part of the Old Kanpur Scheme and in Pandunagar has commenced. The Development Board has also been operating the Government of India loan Scheme for Low Income Group Housing, and has so far sanctioned loans of about 48 lakhs. This has given a fillip to middle class building activity in the city. The Board has also assisted loanees under this scheme with supplies of cement for their constructions. However, the overall shortage of this essential commodity during the second Five Year Plan period has begun to be felt in Kanpur with adverse effects on building activity.

Kanpur Nagar Transport

Kanpur is the only civic authority in the entire Uttar Pradesh, and a rare example of the few in the whole country, to have an urban mechanized passenger transport system owned and operated by itself. The Development Board has invested Rs. 7.52,000 in the Kanpur Nagar Transport, the name under which the system operates. It is the



Block of industrial labour quarters under construction in the Rukminidevi slum site in the city.



A row of low income group houses in Narainpur, Kanpur, built out of Government loans.

successor of the Kanpur Omnibus Service Ltd. and has been in exclusive possession of the right to run a bus service for hire in greater Kanpur, since the beginning of April 1956, and fulfils one of the statutory functions of the Development Board. The system has a fleet of 60 buses, operates 9 routes, the length of the routes varying from 2½ miles to 7 miles, the fare from 1 anna to 3½ annas and the frequency from 8 to 15 minutes according to the pressure of traffic. The buses are on the roads from 6-30 a. m. to 9. p. m. and carry citizens to their places of work or study and homes, within a 7 miles radius from the heart of the city. In July 1956, forty-three buses of the service operated on the city's road covering 1,31,279 miles and hauled 1,16,477 passengers. The Civic Administration shares with other urban passenger transport authorities elsewhere the common problem of overcrowding in the buses, whose solution must lie through the provision of a greater number of buses, minimising breakdowns and improved efficiency and turnover backed by speedy and thorough repairs at the workshop. Efforts in this direction are constantly being made. It is felt, however, that without substantial further investment in purchasing a good number of new buses and discarding those which have outlived their utility, no worthwhile improvement is possible. The matter is receiving the attention of the Administration. Meanwhile an order for two new buses has been placed.

Medical Department

The budget allocated for this department for the current year is Rs. 4,08,000, out of which expenditure of Rs.80,542/2/- has been incurred during the first four months, over medicines, appliances, instruments, hospital equipment and furniture etc. The number of outdoor patients treated during the period was 2,53,857 at the hospitals and dispensaries of the Municipal Board. A levy of annas 2 from every well-to-do person visiting for treatment is charged. This levy yielded Rs. 6,824/2/- during the four months. Health visitors, social workers and midwives employed by the Board paid 530 domiciliary visits, and 3,031 post-natal and 1,762 ante-natal cases were attended to. Maternity centres have been better equipped. Of the Maternity hospitals at Babupurwa and Govindnagar on programme, the one at Govindnagar under construction will be complete and ready to start, it is hoped, on the next Republic Day (January 26) on which its opening ceremony has been provisionally fixed. The Municipal Board has been operating the Family Planning Scheme, assisted by a special grant from the Health Ministry of the Government of India. Under this scheme 2,915 persons were

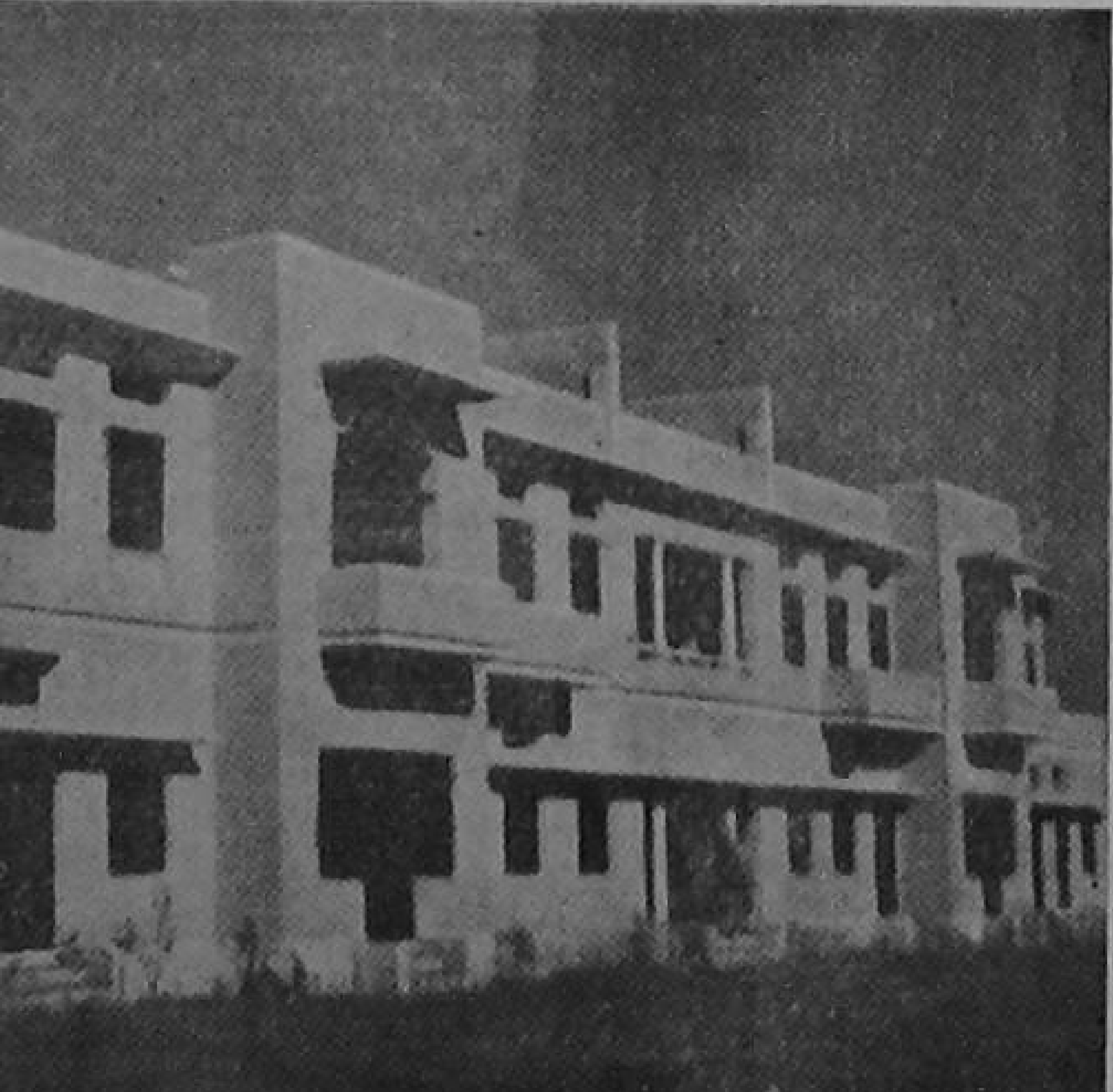
Dr. Hemalata Sanwal (centre), Honry. Organizer, Family Planning Scheme, U.P. at a clinic in Kanpur with some pressmen.

A slum area under operation demolition. Inmates were moved to industrial labour quarters.

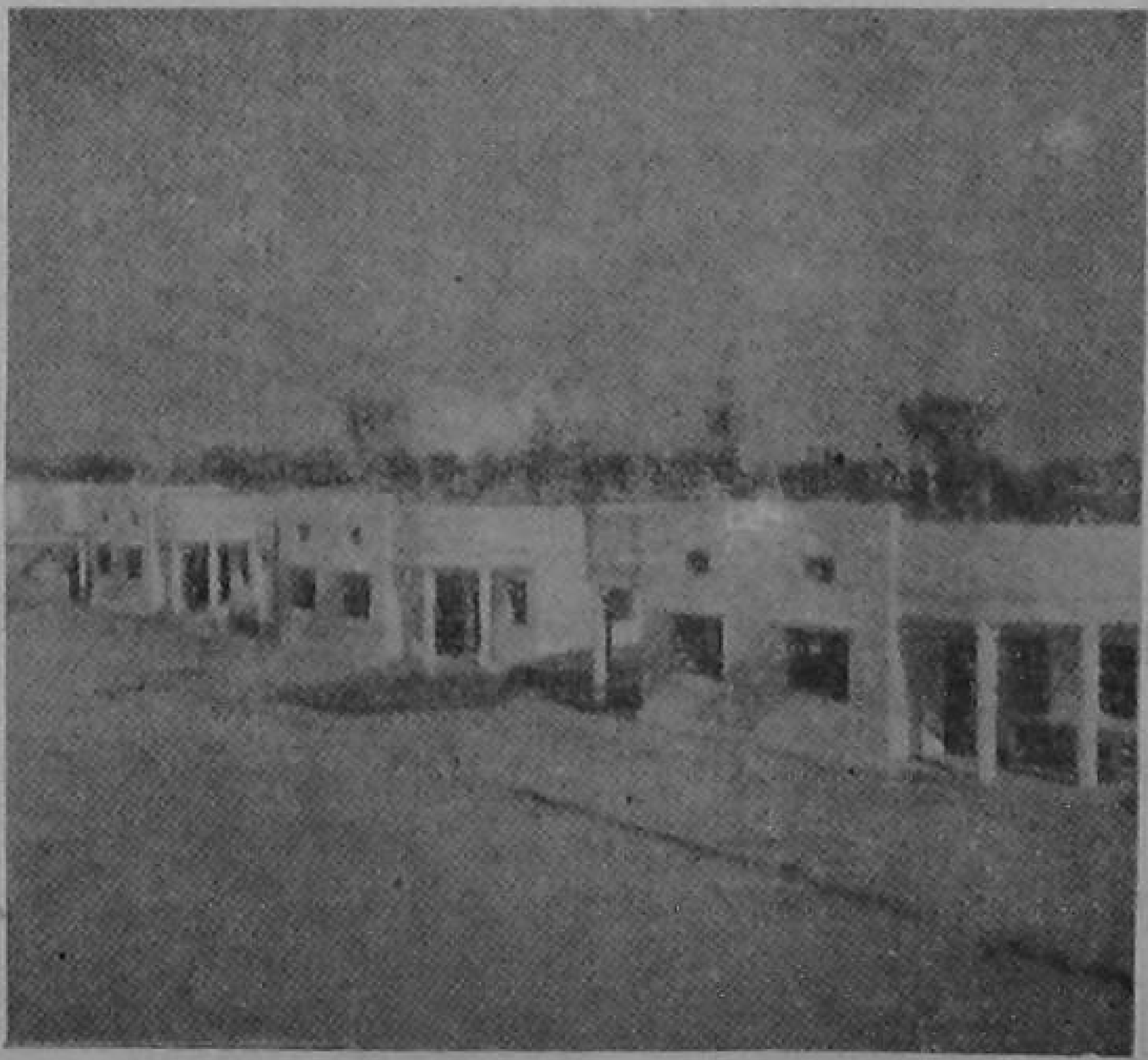
visited and 1,418 cases attended to. Propaganda and clinical work in this connection were conducted on large scale. In April last, the city's journalists were taken round to six family planning centres of the city and provided apportunity to study their organisation and functioning. The scheme is becoming increasingly popular. The Administration opened a tuberculosis wing at the Parvati Devi Infectious Diseases Hospital where cheap treatment of this scourge is made available to the citizens and to the employees of the civic administration through their welfare centre, subsidised by the Administration. The wing has proved very useful. The I. D. Hospital and its tuberculosis treatment wing are now being transferred ro Government along with the staff, equipment etc. and the Municipal Board have been desired to continue to assist the institution through such grants as have been made to the institution. A hospital for treating children's diseases will start functioning at the Birhana Road as soon as its equipment is complete. The medicines, equipment and stores needed for the hospitals and dispensaries are purchased by a centralizeds agency named the Central Medical Stored so as to ensure purchase of standard quality goods and their smooth flow to the hospitals and dispensaries of the Board. Even costly anti-biotics and injections are given without any charge to really indigent patients. The activities of the department in the sphere of medical relief have largely complemented the work of the State Government's medical department.

Public Health and Sanitation

The sanitation of the town is under this department. The removal of rubbish from dustbins to dumping grounds and the cleaning up of sewers has been under the Engineering Department. The Health Department have been endeavouring with success to keep the city free from epidemics, through the enforcement of municipal bye-laws, the Pure Food Act and disposal of the city's refuse. The *dais* are licenced by it, slaughter-houses supervised, factories are inspected for control of smoke nuisance. Building plans also are scrutinised with a view to ensuring requisite minimum standards of accommodation and health. From April to July this year 508 notices were issued for improvement of sanitation, 115 were complied with and 471 persons prosecuted. The number of licences issued under the Pure Food Act was 1190, of



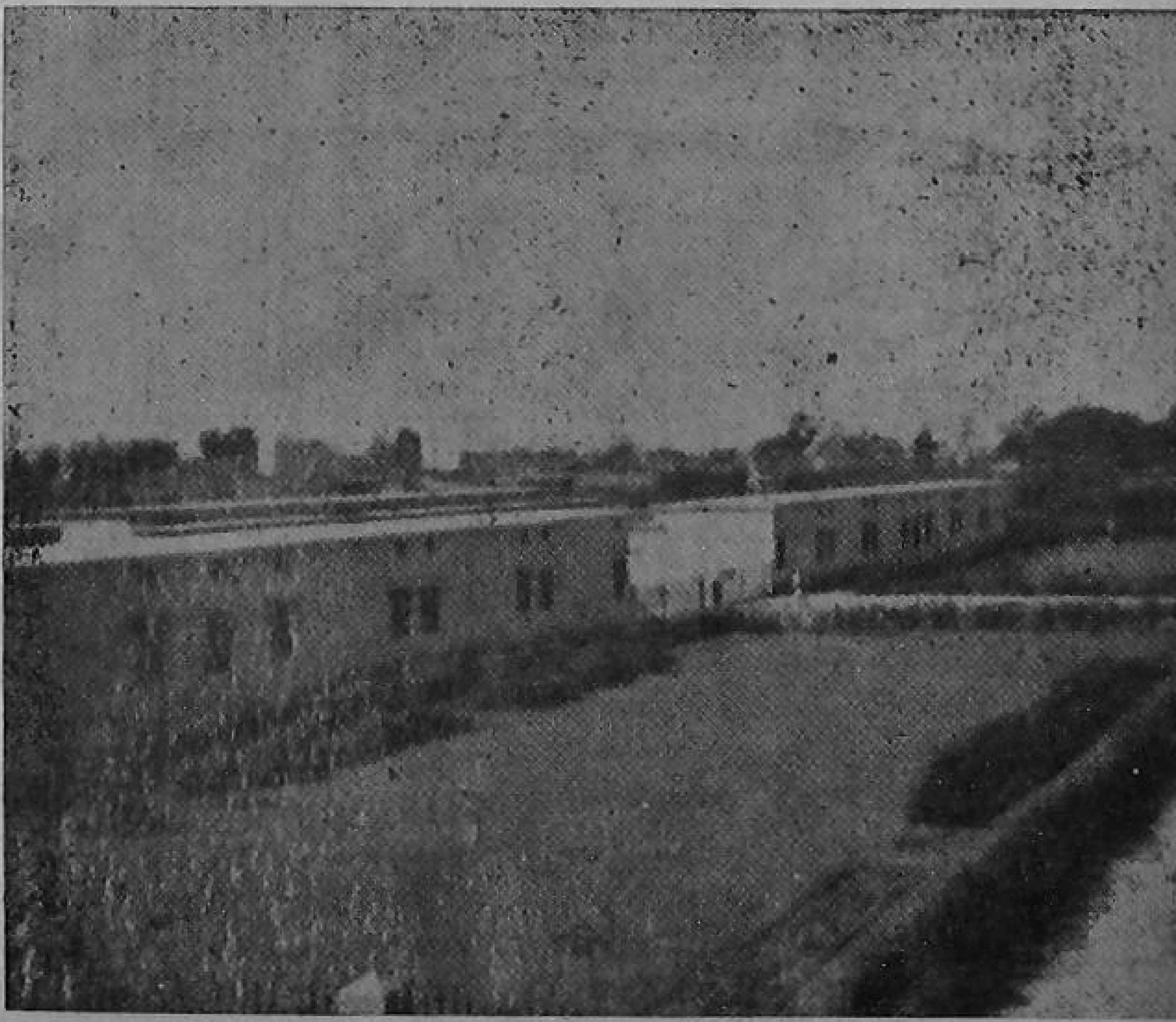
Beldars' Quarters, Kanpur Waterworks.



Houses for Displaced Persons in Narainpur, Kanpur.

those for other foodstuffs which are not covered by this Act 2,808. These latter include vegetables, fruits, betel-shops, tobacco and gur product shops, tea stalls etc. For various other trades like hide-godowns, piggeries etc. another 87 licences were issued. Ninety six prosecutions were launched for non-compliances with notices requiring taking out of licences. Births and deaths are recorded in 16 ward-offices and by clerks and *moharrirs* at the Ganga Ghat, Bhairaoghat, Bhagwatdas Ghat and the various graveyards. During this period 6,410 births and 5,293 deaths were recorded. Government have been approached to approve the provision of another burning ghat in the Cantonments. About 250 building plans and sites were inspected, during the four months. There are : one slaughter house for cattle, 2 for goats and 2 for pigs. One more slaughter house has been constructed by the Board for goats. One slaughter house for goats and two for pigs are privately owned. All these are supervised by the department. As Additional Inspector of Factories, the Medical Officer of Health inspected 21 factories and issued intructions for improvement of sanitation. Under the Food Adulteration Prevention Act 322 samples were collected and sent to the public analyst of which 71 were declared adulterated, 26 persons were convicted, fines of Rs. 2,245 were imposed and imprisonment ranging from 1 to 6 months was awarded by the courts. The pending cases numbered 58. In regard to drug licencing operations, 125 chemists and druggists shops were inspected, 83 licences were issued, 5 applications were rejected. The analysis of samples showed that 19 were sub-standard. Sixteen prosecutions were launched, out of which ten have been decided, with 9 convictions and one acquittal.

This department has been operating the Government scheme for the distribution of free, fresh milk to expectant and nursing mothers, through 9 centres at the different maternity centrse, the Dufferin Hospital, the St. Catherine Hospital, and the Police and Military Welfare centres. Under this scheme, 1 lb. of fresh pasteurised milk is given daily to expectant and nursing mothers for six weeks before and after delivery. Ladies from families with income below Rs. 100 per month are alone entitled to this benefit. The Sahakari Paya Parishad (Cooperative Milk Union) supplies the milk through sealed bottles to these centres. From April to 31st July this year, 173 mds. and 27½ seers of milk has been distributed to 635 mothers. Arrangements are being made for opening more centres for the benefit of the city's labour. The intensive measures taken to control epidemics included vaccination of 12,745 persons against small pox and 1,155 inoculations against cholera. To Haj pilgrims and persons going abroad 173 International certificates were issued after giving them the necessary vaccinations and inoculations. All the slaughter houses were regularly sprayed with Gammaxene and D. D. T., as also dumping and trenching grounds. Malariol was applied to water surfaces and labour colonies were sprayed, thereby checking the fly and mosquito population. Special arrangements for inoculation against cholera were made at the railway station for intending pilgrims to the Ardh Kumbha fair at Hardwar



Kanpur Waterworks Staff Quarters and Lawns.

and the Sawan Jhula fair at Ayodhya. Chlorination doses at the Waterworks were regulated according to the results obtained after examination of 20 water samples from waterworks and standposts on an average per week throughout the past four months ended July 31. This ensured pure water supply to the citizens.

Education Department

There is a budget provision for expenditure of Rs. 19.60 lakhs for public instruction, including Rs. 1 lakh for construction and repairs to school buildings, Rs. 20,000 for purchase of land for school construction, Rs. 20,000 for constributions to schools and Rs. 20,000 for constructions to libraries, museums, etc. The bulk of the provision, viz. Rs. 18 lakhs is meant for schools and colleges run by the Board. Right from the compulsory primary stage, the Kanpur civic administration provides to children of citizens facilities for studying upto the University stage, through hundreds of primary schools for boys and girls, junior high schools, higher secondary schools and colleges. During the current year 17 buildings are proposed to be constructed under the Five Year Plan which has a target of 60. The Government of India are to provide Rs. 10,000 per school.

Harijan Niwas, Birhana Road, Kanpur.

Another Rs. 1,500 per school for the Junior High Schools is to be provided for science equipment, furniture, library, etc. for the compulsory science classes. Art classes in these schools imparting instruction in tailoring, leatherwork, spinning and weaving are to be opened in four junior high schools in Khalasi Lines, Sadar Bazar, Colonelgunj and Hata Sawai Singh. Final approval and sanction of govt. in this matter is awaited.

The Municipal Montessorie School named Shishu Shiksha Sadan imparts pre-primary education to small children on scientific lines with the help of play implements and other paraphernalia of the system. For imparting education in fine arts such as vocal and instrumental music, dance etc. the civic authorities have been running the Gandhi Sangit Vidyalaya in Civil Lines from last year, under the guidance of Shri S. S. Bodas, member of the Sangeet Academy, Government of India. It prepares students for graduation in music from the various universities conducting examinations, as also from the Gandharva Mahavidyalaya Mandal, Bombay. Six rooms have been added to the building during the last four months for holding classes of this school.

Compulsory primary education for all girls within the entire municipal limits of Kanpur has been introduced but progress in the direction is hampered because of paucity of accommodation for 19 new schools in various wards of the city. The target is to have 113 primary schools during 1956-57, but it has been possible to open only 94 so far. The enrolment in these schools is 19,542, and the expected enrolment would be 19,882. The estimated expenditure on the 9 junior high schools would be Rs. 1,09,892 and on the primary schools Rs. 6,11,281.

In the realm of extra-curricular activity for children, the Administration intends to provide adequate outdoor play fixtures and apparatus in every park of the city wherever the installation is permitted by the space available. It is also intended to revive the chain of municipal libraries and reading rooms, and if possible, augment their number, besides financially helping the existing public libraries.

CIVIC REPORTS FROM STATES

Assam

Naga Problem

In a Lok Sabha debate on the Naga situation on August 23, the Prime Minister said that Government had not treated the Naga problem as a purely military one and it was because of this that the progress in the operations in the disturbed area had not been as fast as it might have been from the military point of view.

Mr. Nehru stated that even though past interviews had been exploited he would still be glad to meet Mr. Phizo and his colleagues provided they did not demand an independent Naga State. Eearlier in the debate Mr. Rishan Keishing (Socialist— Manipur) had asked the Government to declare a general amnesty, hold talks with the representatives of Naga Council and Mr. Phizo, who still commanded an unchallenged following. He charged the Indian Army with indulging in an "orgy of violence".

The Prime Minister said that apart from him, the Governor and the Chief Minister of Assam had met Mr. Phizo. The latter had met him more than once last year, and there was no lack on their part to win over the Nagas from violence. He did not claim that the policy pursued by the Government of India and the Assam Government was absolutely correct. They had made mistakes naturally, as was inevitable, but the objective before them was to win the minds and hearts of Nagas and not to terrify them. He did not approve of the suggestion to send a Parliamentary Commission to the Naga areas.

Lt. General K. S. Thimayya, G. O. C.-in-C. Eastern Command, said on August 24 that lack of communications in the Naga hills and absence of any intelligence from the hostiles were the most difficult problems the Army experienced in conducting operations against the Nagas. The General said no startling results could be expected till after the monsoon, by which time, he expected the communications would be improved and the Army intelligence organisation would consolidate.

Hartal For Oil Refinery

A State-wide hartal was observed in Assam on August 28 to press the demand for setting up a refinery in Assam for processing crude oil from Naharkotia wells. Police had to fire tear-gas shells, resort to lathi charge and make arrests at several places. All vehicular traffic in Gauhati remained suspended and 15 trains on the south bank of Bramhputra were held up. Other towns affected by the hartal were: Barpeta, Dibrugarh, Nowgong, Silchar, Sibsagar, etc. Shillong, the capital, remained unaffected by the hartal. Mr. K. D. Malaviya, Minister for Natural Resources, who was in Gauhati on August 28, said that people of Assam should have no misgivings as the Government of India was determined to set up a refinery for the processing Assam oil resources in Assam itself.

Bombay

Bigger Bilingual State

As a result of the latest amendment in the States Reorganisation Scheme, since then accepted by the Parliament, the bigger bilingual State of Bombay will be the biggest among the States in many spheres. It will have the biggest area of 188,240 square miles, the biggest budget of over Rs 100 crores. Its population will not be much less than that of Uttar Pradesh. Welcoming the decision, Mr. S. K. Patil said the new State will be the "pride of India".

Ahmedabad Disturbances

The decision not to have a separate Gujrat State with, most probably, Ahmedabad as its capital, led to an unprecedented and unexpected mob violence and public demonstrations in Ahmedabad and some other parts of Gujrat, leading to the fast of the Chief Minister of Bombay, Mr. Morarji Desai, who was prevented from addressing a public meeting in Ahmedabad.

The Mayor, Mr. Chinubhai Chimanlal and Deputy Mayor, Mr. Chandrakant Gandhi, of Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation on August 11 informed the Municipal Commissioner Mr. M. D. Rajpal that they were

resigning from their office and the Corporation in protest against the Union Government's decision to have a bigger bilingual State of Bombay. Two other members of the Corporation, Mr. Jayantilal Bhikhabhai, and Mr. Norottam Shah, Chairman of the Wage Committee and of the Transport Committe, respectively, also resigned.

Mr. Jaikrishna Harivallabhdas Patel, Chairman of the Ahmedabad Millowners' Association and a Congress member of the Bombay State Assembly, resigned from the latter.

Mr. U. N. Dhebar,

Congress President, Mr. U. N. Dhebar, was 51 on September 21. He dose not believe in birthday celebrations.

Corporation Meeting

A meeting of the Ahmedabad Corporation on August 15 resulted in the resignation from the Corporation of all non-Congress members, four belonging to the P. S. P. and four Independents. Since both the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor had resigned, a Congress member was elected chairman. When the clerk read out the day's agenda containing a reference to the resignation by the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, both Congressmen, the leader of the four-member P. S. P. group demanded the reason for the Mayor's resignation. But meanwhile the Congress members had neatly cut the ground from under his feet. Slowly they had slipped out one by one. The last to go raised a point of order. "There is no quorum," he said—and walked out.

The Chair adjourned the meeting till September 10. The angry P. S. P. leader shouted that he and his party were resigning. Later four Independents were also persuaded to submit their resignations.

Mass resignations

Reports of mass resignations from municipalities, gram panchayats and other local bodies were received from all over Gujrat. In Ahmedabad out of 64 members, 22, including Mayor and Deputy Mayor, had resigned. In Nadiad out of 34 members 32 resigned.

Mob Violence

In the orgy of mob violence that was let loose in Ahmedabad several Congressmen were beaten. Several cases of incendiarism were reported, and the police had to open firn.

The crowd also mobbed Mr. U. N. Dhebar, the Congress President, and flung his cap in the air when he approached them and appealed for peaceful behaviour.

Following the fast of Mr. Morarji Desai the atmosphere cooled down, and people in Ahmedabad and other parts of Gujrat seemed reconciled to the bigger bilingual Bombay State.

Parliament's Decision

Speaking on the third reading of the States Reorganisation Bill in the Lok Sabha on August 10, which was passed that day, the Prime Minister deprecated the tendency noticed in the country to challenge the decision of Parliament on the streets in a violent way. That was something basically opposed to the whole democratic conception and method, he asserted.

The Home Minister informed the House that neither armed forces nor military police had been called to quell the disturbances in Ahmedabad. The Prime Minister said it was unfortunate that so many people had died but this House was not responsible for it.

Greater Bombay To Be Greater

The Mayor of Bombay, Mr. Shalebhoy Abdul Kader, while thanking the Bombay Government for all the co-operation given to the Municipal Corporation in solving many of the civic problems, said with the proposal to have Bombay City centrally administered, having been abandoned, the plan to expand the City limits would also be naturally dropped. He would, however, ask the Bombay Government to note that there was a great need to extend the limits of Greater Bombay. The Corporation, he added, would take up the matter later with the Government.

Fillng 41 Councillors' Vacancies

The Bombay Corporation on August 9 referred to its Law, Revenue and General Purposes Committee, a resolution that early bye-elections be held to fill 41 vacancies caused by resignations of councillors on the Samyukta Maharashtra issue.

The Corporation Mayor said the Delhi decision to form a bigger bilingual Bombay State was welcome to all.

Mr. S. K. Patil, President of the B. P. C. C., addressing a Press Conference the same day had said if the atmosphere changed, the Bombay Pradesh Congress Committee would request the State Government to bring in amending legislation to enable immediate bye-elections being held to the Municipal Corporation. "We shall also make every effort to see that those who had resigned from the Corporation on this issue come back", he said. The Congress would not only contest the bye-elections, but would whole-heartedly support the councillors who had resigned if they were opposed by others.

Cost Of Bye-elections

The bye-elections are likely to be held in November, after the amending legislation is passed in October. In case the return is contested and there is one even more condidate each bye-election will cost the Municipal Corporation Rs. 6,000. The life of the present Corporation, which was originally to have expired on March 31 last, was extended by an amending Act till June 30, 1957.

Dilapidated Buildings

The Bombay Municipal Corporation on August 2 adopted a resolution urging an immediate survey of all dangerous and dilapidated buildings in Greater Bombay. The resolution asked the Municipal Commissioner to draw up a scheme for demolition of dangerous houses and give alternative accommodation to tenants. It also empowered the Mayor to represent to the State and Central Governments the need for immediate financial aid to implement its housing scheme as an emergency measure.

Mr. P. R. Nayak, Municipal Commissioner told a meeting of the Standing Committee on August 1 that there were 255 buildings in Bombay which were in urgent need of heavy repairs.

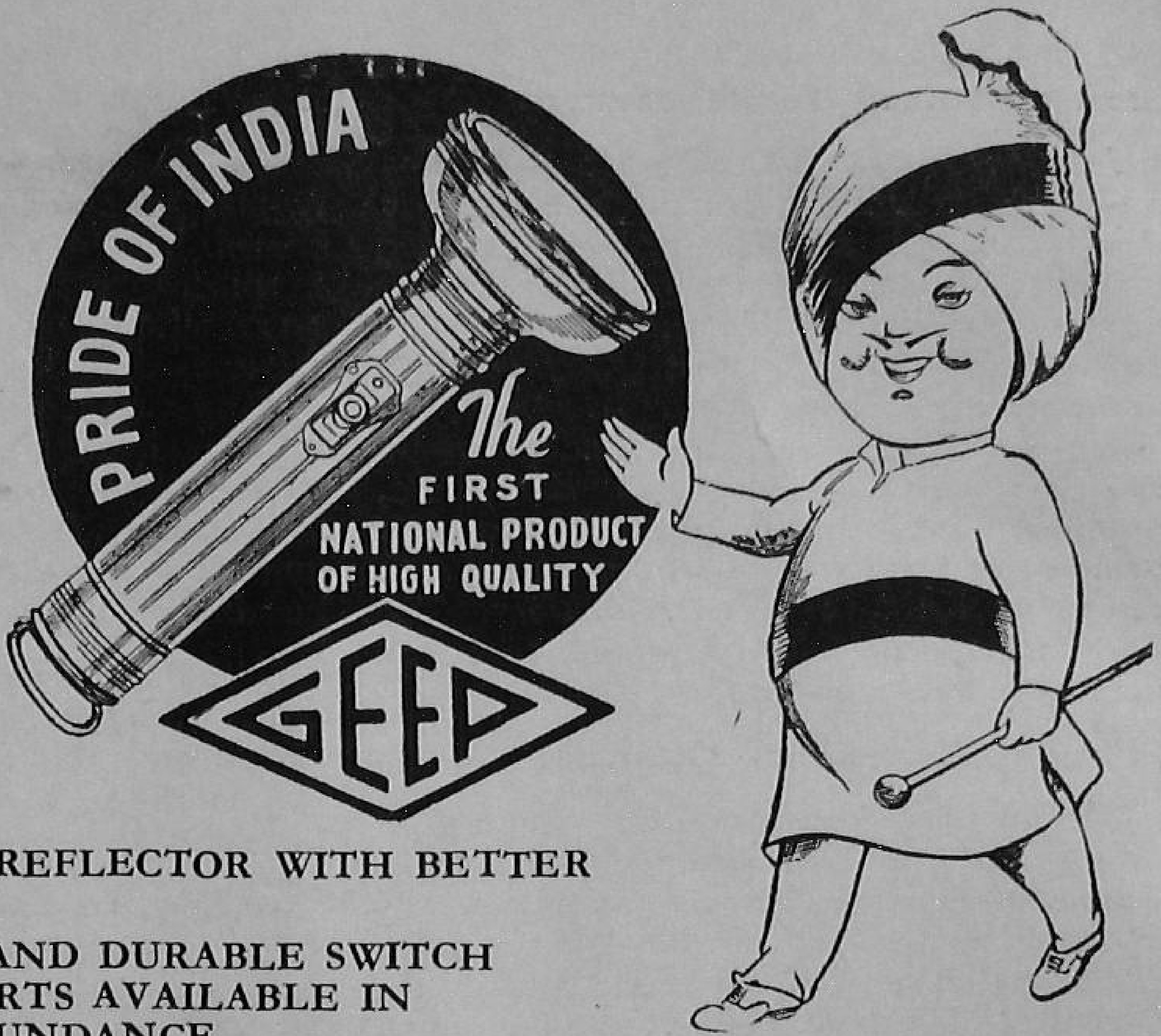
Governor To Leave

Dr. Harekrishna Mahatab will relinquish the Governorship of Bombay on September 30, to take up the Chief Ministership of Orissa in the following month.

Delhi

Inclusion of New Delhi In Corporation

The Union Health Minister, Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, told a deputation of Delhi M. L. A.s on August 22 that it had not yet been decided to exclude New Delhi from the proposed Corporation for Delhi. The question, she added, was still open. The deputation consisting of eight members of the Delhi Vidhan Sabha elected from New Delhi, presented a memorandum to the Union Health Minister saying that both Delhi and New Delhi were integrated units having common civic and commercial interests. The proposed Corporation for Delhi without New Delhi would be a truncated body, uninspiring and highly deficient in several respects. Further, the decision to have seperate civic administration for New Delhi would cut the very roots of the arguments of the State Reorganisation Commission on which it turned down the demand of a separate Delhi State with Old Delhi as its capital. The bifurcation and multiplication of administrative setups would create more confusion, weaken



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the units administratively and financially and deprive the people of uniform civic amenities in one city.

It seemed odd, the memorandum added, that while people living in Delhi should be granted some democratic local administration, the people of New Delhi should be deprived of it and practically dis-franchised.

Prime Minister on Democracy

The Prime Minister in reply to a letter from Mr. Mushtaq Ahmed for the retention of democratic set-up in Delhi at State level, said that "every care will be taken about Delhi", Mr. Nehru added: "I do not think that any democratic values are in peril in Delhi". He added: "Democracy does not necessarily consist in a large number of local assemblies. Suppose there was a unitary constitution for India, that would not mean that democracy has ceased to exist in India".

The Executive Committee of the State Praja Socialist Party at its meeting on August 18, welcomed the move to establish a Corporation for Delhi's urban areas after the reorganisation of States. The resolution reiterated the demand for inclusion of New Delhi, the Cantonment and all statutory bodies in the proposed Corporation.

More Powers for Improvement Trust

The Union Health Minister assured the Lok Sabha on August 22 that as far as possible the Government would try to give alternative accommodation to people evicted from certain areas in Delhi for the purpose of slum clearance. She also assured the House that the Government would take care to see that in the new areas to which people were moved, they were able to carry on their occupation. She was speaking on the Government Premises (Eviction) Amendment Bill, which enlarges the definition of "public premises" to include premises vested in the Delhi Improvement Trust also.

During the debate many members opposed the vesting of powers of eviction in the Delhi Improvement Trust. They wanted a specific assurance from the Government that refugees and residents of Delhi slums would not be evicted from their present quarters without assigning to them alternative accommodation.

The Minister for Works, Housing and Supply and the Health Minister told the House that the Government would constitute within a month an Advisory Committee to advise the Delhi Improvement Trust on slum clearance work. The Committee would also advise the trust on the provison of alternative accommodation to those who were evicted in areas near about their present residences.

Check On Unauthorised Constructions

As many as 170 structures built without prior permission in the controlled areas including rehabilitation and private colonies had been demolished by the Delhi Development (Provisional) Authority by the end of August. In addition, 40 unauthorized structures had been demolished by owners voluntarily. Most of these were built since April 1 this year. According to the Enforcement Officer of the Authority, Mr. C. L. Anand, over 4,000 notices have been issued to owners of unauthorized constructions. The Authority will now concentrate on discouraging unplanned growth of "khokhas" (wooden stalls) and making of additions and alterations to existing buildings. Unauthorized constructions of big buildings, it was claimed, had been checked to a large extent.

D. M. C. Members Again Walk-out

Opposition Members, including independents, with the exception of one, staged a walk-out from the meeting of Delhi Municipal Committee on August 1, when the President disallowed them to record their vote of dissent at the time of confirming of previous week's meeting at which also the Opposition had staged a walk-out. The dispute arose over the President's power to exclude from inclusion in the minutes discussed in the Committee's meetings.

"Loose and Irresponsible Talk"

The President Mr. R. N. Agrwal, said that only Parliament and the Stae Assem-

blies had arrangements for taking note of all the proceedings. Such a procedure, he pointed out, would not only be unwieldy and cumbersome for the Committee, but also "dangerous" because "irresponsible, loose and libellous talks" would also form part of the Committee's proceedings, and there would be no end to discussions.

President Names Members

For the first time in the Delhi Municipal Committee on August 9 the House had to be adjourned for 15 minutes to persuade a member to leave the hall after he had been "named" by the President. Earlier, all efforts of the President and the members to make him leave the House failed. The member not only refused to accept the ruling of the President, but tried to create disorderly scenes by shouting repeatedly, "I will not leave".

The President, Mr. R. N. Aggarwal, said that if a member behaved in this way, the meeting could not proceed. He appealed to the good sense of the House to persuade the member to leave the House, as he was not only flouting the ruling of the Chair, but was also "misbehaving" and "disturbing" the meeting.

Trouble started when Mr. Kundan Lal Sharma, and Independent member, wanted to speak on a resolution which he had sent earlier to the President. The President did not allow him to speak as he said that the resolution was undesirable. The member presisted in speaking on the resolution, but the President refused to allow him. He was later defended by Mr. Ram Charan Aggarwal, another Independent member, who also refused to take his seat when asked to do so by the President. The President then "named" both Mr. Aggarwal and Mr. Kundan Lal Sharma and asked them to leave the hall after he had read out the Rules of Business from the Punjab Municipal Act which stated that a chairman had the power to "name" a member and ask him to withdraw from the House if that member created disturbance in the House.

"Grave Disorder" Objected To

Strong exception was taken on August 22 by Opposition members at the Delhi Municipal Committee meeting to the words used in the proceedings of the above meeting. The words, "grave disorder", had been used in the proceedings to describe the incident. Some Opposition members maintained that these words were vague and reflected on all the members of the House. The Jana Sangh members said that the names of the two members who were responsible for the incident should have been mentioned.

Despite the explanation of the Secretary and the repeated requests from the Chair not to waste the time of the House in such useless discussion, over 35 minutes were spent by the Opposition on this procedural matter. Ultimately the President had to accept a suggestion to amend the proceedings keeping in view the suggestions made in the House.

Sahadara Municipal Elections

Elections to the 25-member Sahadara Municipal Committee were held on August 28. There were 59 candidates for the 20 seats for which elections were held that day—17 from the general and three from the reserved constituencies. This was the second civic election in the town after independence. The Congress and the Jana Sangh had put forward candidates for all the seats and the rest were independents.

Eleven out of 20 seats were won by the Congress, Six seats were won by Independents and three by the Jana Sangh. Of six Independents, two were PSP-supported candidates.

Himachal Pradesh

Show Tax

The Municipal Committees of Nahan and Mandi and the Small Town Committee of Bilaspur have been authorized to impose a show tax at the rate of Rs. 2 per show at a cinema, circus or a theatre from October 20, with the prior sanction of the Lieutenant Governor.

Hyderabad

Municipal Mayors and Presidents Conference

A Conference of Mayors and Commissioners of Hyderabad and Secunderabad Municipal Corporations, and Presidents of City and Town Municipalities of the state was held in Aurangabad on August 4 and 5. The Conference was inaugurated by the Minister for Local Government, Mr. Gopal Rao Ekbote. The Conference passed the following resolutions:—

In regard to the recommendations of the Minimum Wages Committee in respect of employees of Local bodies, the Conference decided to await the report of the Sub-Committee of the Local Government Advisory Committee to whom the matter had been referred.

In regard to financial assistance given by the Government of India for urban water supply and drainage schemes, the Conference was of the view that 25 percent should be treated as loan and 75 percent as grant-in-aid, the former being repayable in 30 instalments.

The Conference wanted the State Government to step up grant-in-aid to the Municipalities, which should not be less than 5 percent of the gross revenues of the State. The Conference was of the opinion that grant-in-aid received by the Municipalities in the neighbouring States compare favorably with those in the Hyderabad State.

All the Municipalities of the State were asked to impose the taxes permissible under the Act to the maximum limit to improve their finances and also to impose Octroi wherever possible. The Conference also wanted the Government to provide for the collection of tax on immovable property affected through court decrees and even on unregistered transfer deeds, when they come to the notice of local bodies or at the time when parties approach for transfer.

The Property tax should be allowed to be levied on the buildings of the Union Government. including the Railways, and, if necessary, Article 285 of the Constitution may be amended for the purpose.

The State Government were requested to reduce electricity charges for industrial housing and for water supply.

The Local Bodies should take over public services where they will add to the financial resources of these bodies.

The Conference opposed the levy of Dhara-Khas, and to avoid double-taxation it wanted the Revenue Department to transfer its rights on lands situated in the municipal limits to the local bodies concerned.

The Government was requested to resume payment of 50 percent of the Market Cess collections to the Local Bodies, which was stopped in 1947.

The Public Works Department should charge concession rates for power supplied to the local bodies.

In view of the financial position of the Local Bodies the Government were requested to write off the loans given for water supply schemes or to treat them as grants-in-aid.

In view of the difficulties experienced in purchase of stationrey and articles for Water Supply, like chlorine, alum, etc., through the agency of the Central Purchase Stores and Stationery Depot of the Director, Commerce and Industries, the Local Bodies, the Conference recommended, should be allowed to make these purchases direct.

The Electricity, Telegraph and Telephone Departments should be asked to consult the local body concerned before fixing new poles, etc.

Government should not make any charge from the Local Bodies for publication of notifications in Government gazette, where their publication is obligatory.

The Government should meet the additional cost of keeping the street lights on throughout the night, where this is required for the purposes of law and order.

Censure Motion Against Ministers

The Hyderabad Legislative Assembly on August 14 rejected by a large majority of votes two motions censuring the policies of Mr. K. V. Ranga Reddy, Excise Minister, and Dr. G. S. Malkote, Labour Minister.

Mr. K. V. Rao(P. D. F.)who sponsored the motion against Mr. Reddy said that the Minister had failed to maintain the morals of the administration under him "because of his undue interference in the day-to-day administration", etc. The charges preferred by Mr. N. Mohideen (P. D. F.) against Dr. Melkote, where his refusal to make public the reports of the Wage Board and the Minimum Wage Committee, helping in the formation of four company unions and "to bulldoze them into submission". All the charges were denied by both the Ministers.

Local Government Engineers' Conference

Inaugurating a two-day Conference of Local Government engineers, Mr. Gopalarao Ekbote, Minister for Local Government, congratulated local bodies on having successfully carried out public works costing over Rs. 4 crores for the past three years. Noteworthy works were the completion of 5,000 houses and improvment of rural water supply and drainage, he said.

He said the second Plan envisaged works aggregating Rs. 2.5 crores annually in addition to the normal works costing Rs. 1 crore each year. This was a stupendous task, requiring extraordinary effort. He hoped that now that Local Government engineers had been given equality of salaries and security of tenure with State engineers, they would have an incentive to greater endeavour.

Earlier Mr. Mehdi Ali, Superintending Engineer, reviewed the progress of Local Government works last year. He said works worth Rs. 180 lakhs had been executed including 540 primary school buildings, 350 wells for piped water supply to four towns, 56 miles of road and 46 miscellaneous village buildings.

Referring to the Rs. 8 crores second Five Year Plan for Local Government works, he pointed to the paucity of qualified techinical personnel and delay in administrative sanctions which could hold up progress.

Jammu and Kashmir

State Constitution

The revised draft of the State's Constitution is practically finalized and is expected to be considered by the Assembly when it meets shortly. According to the present indications Kashmir will have a bicameral legislature under the State's proposed new Constitution.

Madhya Bharat

Ujjain Congress Councillors Suspended

The Ujjain District Congress Committee has suspended three Congress municipal councillors, for a period of three years from the primary membership of the party. These councillors took part in the election of the office-bearers of the Municipal Council recently, flouting the directive of the D.C.C.

The A.I.C.C. General Secretary, had advised the Ujjain D. C. C. to abstain from participating in any election of Ujjain Municipal Council. He had given such advice with a view to suppressing the growing group politics in Ujjain Municipal Congress affairs which culminated in the resignation of Mr. Hiralal Sharma (I.N.T.U.C.) from presidentship of the Ujjain Municipal Council.

Terminal Tax On Railway Passengers

The Ratlam Municipal Council has proposed to levy a terminal tax on railway passengers. It has urged the Central Government through the State Government to give necessary sanction for the imposition of this tax. The tax will be levied at the rate of one anna per passenger. The railway will work as an agency to realize this tax from passengers.

M. B. Civic Workers Conference

A conference of municipal employees in Madhyabharat had been called in Ujjain on September 9 and 10

under the auspices of the Greater Ujjain Municipal Employees' and Workers' Union to consider the situation arising out of the refusal by the State Government to revise the pay scales of the employees in accordance with the recommendations of the Sunder Raman Pay Committee's Report. Mr. Khadiwala, Pradesh Congress chief, has been requested to inaugurate the conference. The Union at a recent meeting adopted a resolution urging the State Government to extend the benefit available to Government servants under the medical aid rules to municipal employees as well.

Sweepers' Strike In Gwalior Averted

The threatened strike of sweepers of the Gwalior Municipality in August was averted following the reference of their dispute with the Municipality to conciliation.

The 800-strong Gwalior municipal sweepers' union had earlier served a notice on the municipality if their demands regarding wage increase etc. were not granted.

Madhya Pradesh

Demands of Nagpur Corporation

The Nagpur Corporation on August 20 unanimously passed a resolution demanding the location of a separate secretariat and a full bench of the High Court of the bilingual Bombay State in Nagpur for the convenience of the people of Vidarbha and Marathwada.

The preamble of the resolution, however, said that the Corporation was opposed to the formation of bilingual Bombay and felt "deep concern" over the situation arising from it.

The Corporation also decided to take "energetic and urgent steps through constitutional and democratic means" to secure retention of the existing offices in Nagpur.

Second Capital of India

The resolution urged the Central Government to retain the importance of Nagpur by making it the second capital of India and the seat of the Supreme Court.

Other demands of the Corporation include shifting of Defence headquarters, Central Railway headquarters, offices of Natural Resources, Iron and Steel and Commerce and Industry Ministries to Nagpur in view of the central location of the city and the availability of buildings.

Sports Stadium for Jabalpur

The Chief Minister, Mr. R. S. Shukla, laid the foundation of a stadium at Wright Town in Jabalpur on August 9.

The stadium will cost Rs. one lak. Half the cost will be met by the Jabalpur Corporation and the Madhya Pradesh Olympic Association. The Mayor, Mr. Bhawani Prasad Tiwari, announced that another stadium would be built at Ranitlal and named after Durgavati, the famous Good queen.

Sweepers' Demands

A conference of Madhya Pradesh sweepers held in Jabalpur in the last week of July demanded that the recommendations of the "Sarwate Award" and the Majumdar Committee be applied to all the municipal towns of the State. Other resolutions regarding increment in salaries and dearness allowance were also passed.

Madras

Civic Address For Former Mayor

Madras Corporation on August 10 honoured one of its former Mayors, Mr. K. Venktaswami Naidu, by presenting him a civic address on his 61st birthday. He was also presented a gold-coated silver casket—a replica of a temple with gopuram. The civic address referred to the role of Mr. Naidu as Mayor in 1938. Mr. Naidu advised the councillors to take a lively interest in the development of city.

Round Tana Arcade : Town Improvement Plans

Several schemes of town improvement were considered at a conference called by the Mayor and attended by the State's Home Secretary, the Commissioner of Police, and others. The Mayor said that he had asked the Government for their immediate approval of the scheme for constructing the underground passage and arcade at Round Tana. The proposal to construct an open

air theatre at the Egmore Stadium or in the Government Estate had been deferred. It was decided to deal with the nuisance caused by hawkers at various busy thoroughfares and pavements in the city. It was also decided to start experimental planting of shade giving trees in the middle of roads.

Award For Best Theatre

The Film Fans' Association Madras has constituted a panel of three persons to select the best theatre in the city of Madras.

Congress Municipal Party Dissolved

The Congress Municipal Party in Cuddalore with 19 members in a Council of 32 was dissolved by the Tamil Nad Congress President Mr. P. Kakkan. Dissensions among the Congress members in the Council including differences over the presentation of an address to the Dravida Kazhagam leader, Mr. E. V. Ramaswamy Naicker, had led to a majority of them sending a no-confidence motion against the Chairman. Despite a T. N. C. C. Executive directive the motion was not stayed and it was defeated when brought before the Council.

All Party Councillors Group

Nineteen members of the Vellore Municipal Council have formed a Municipal National Party with the object of improving the town without party considerations. The party has 7 Congress Councillors, 1 Praja Socialist Councillor and 11 independent Councillors.

Bill To Regulate Wall Posters

A non-official bill sponsered by Mr. K. Balassubarammania Ayyar in the State Legislative Council, to regulate the display of wall posters and other public advertisements was withdrawn on August 26 after the Government assurance that they sympathised with the object of the Bill and would bring forward a comprehensive measure soon. They had already drafted a Bill and submitted to the Central Government which has suggested certain amendments in it, which were now under the State Government's consideration.

The mover said in recent years the practice of pasting posters on walls facing public roads

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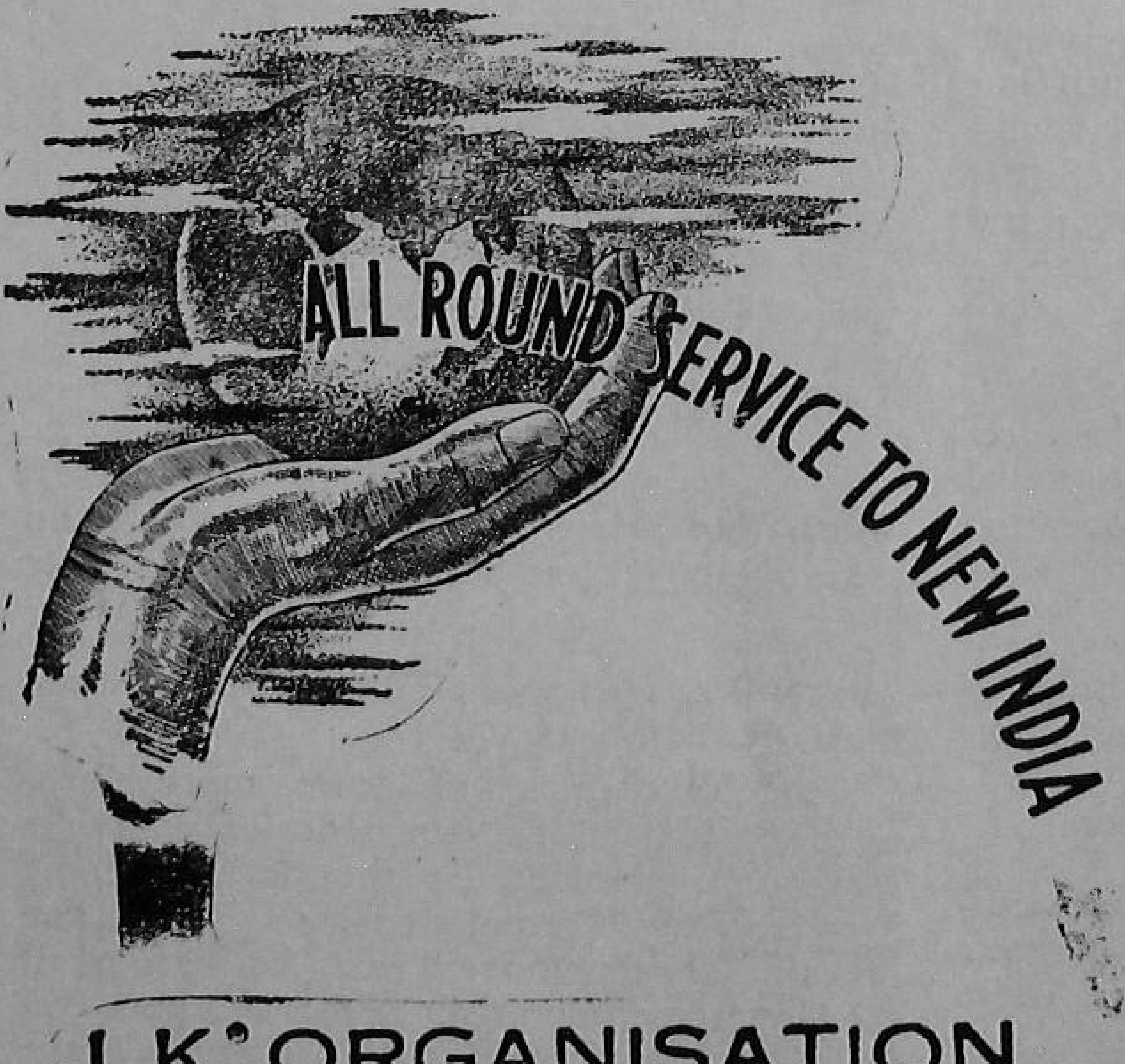

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had increased. The walls were disfigured to the annoyance of the public and property owners. Cinemas and theatres had started pasting extravagantly large and unseemly posters, which not only offended against decency but also caused traffic obstruction. Regulation of such posters was necessary to save the beauty of a city, and it was already in vogue in other countries.

The Bill received the support of a number of members, including Dr. A. Lakshmaswami Mudaliar, Vice-Chancellor of Madras University, and Mrs. Mary Clubwala Jadhav Dr. Mudaliar said now-a-days the posters were pasted right on the warning, "Bill stickers will be prosecuted", and no private or public building was spared. Even in cinema houses posters should be displayed well within the premises. If no check was placed a time may come when no space will be left on the walls without posters. Such things were not seen on the other side of the Suez, he concluded. Mrs. Jadhav said Madras was no doubt a beautiful city, but its beauty was marred by the display of all sorts of posters. Mr. Krishnamurthi wanted the end of the semi-naked and obscene cinema posters. Mr. T. Purushotham said that the provision in the City Municipal Act and the District Municipalities Act to regulate the advertisements did not empower them to reject indecent and offending advertisements.

Those opposing the Bill raised doubts about its constitutional validity. It was also pointed out that it would be difficult to define indecent, obscene and good taste etc. It was also said that the Bill gave too wide powers to the local bodies.

Civic Address To President

The Madras Corporation presented a civic address to the President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad on August 14.

The Mayor, Mr. V. R. Ramanatha Ayyar, extended a cordial welcome to the President on behalf of the Corporation and the citizens of Madras and expressed his gratitude at the healthy precedent set by the President of spending the Independence Day somewhere in the South, which in no small measure helped to promote and foster unity among the people. The Mayor also presented to the President a silver casket finely fashioned in the shape of a typical South Indian temple "garbhagraham" surmounted by the familiar "Vimanam", as a souvenir to mark the occasion.

The President thanked the citizens of Madras for the great enthusiastic welcome extended to him ever since he set his foot in the City three days ago.

States Reoganisation Commission

Underlining the paramount need for preserving the fundamental unity of the country, the President declared that "nothing can be tolerated—and nothing should be tolerated—which in any way jeopardises that unity."

In Madurai

The Madurai Municipal Council and the Madurai District Board presented addresses of welcome to Dr. Rajendra Prasad on August 16.

The President said differences among the people should not be permitted to destroy the fundamental unity of the country. He said India was acquiring great name in the world affairs. The Prime Minister had beed devoting himself wholeheartedly to the maintenance of peace in the world at large. They could understand with how much greater force and emphasis and authority he could speak if he could say that in his own country there was no trouble at all.

Single Authority For Cinema Buildings

The Madras Government had decided to vest in a single authority the powers of granting permission for the construction or reconstruction of buildings for cinematograph exhibitions and granting licences to cinemas in the State. The Commissioner of Police in Madras City the District Collector in other towns, who are already the licensing authorities under the Madras Cinemas Regulating Act, will be appointed authorities for permitting the construction and reconstruction of buildings for the exhibition of films, and for the installation of machinery for it. The

proposal contained in a bill, which was notified on August 29, follows representation that much hardship was caused to the exhibitors by the multiplicity of authorities whom the exhibitors should approach for permits or licences under different enactment before a theatre was made ready for exhibition of films.

Mysore

New Government

Mr. Kadidal Manjappa (45) was sworn in as Chief Minster on August 19. The following five Ministers were also sworn in the same day: Mr. A. G. Ramchandra Rao, Mr. H. Siddaveerappa, Dr. R. Nagan Gowd, Mr. T. Channaiah and Mr. H. M. Chnnbasappa. Mr. Manjappa who, was elected the leader of the Congress Legislature Party, was Revenue Minister in the outgoing Government led by Mr. K. Hanumanthiyah. His five Ministers were also serving in the Hanumanthiyah Cabinet.

Earlier the Congress Legislatuture Party had accepted the resignation of Mr. Hanumanthiyah as the leader of the party, which led to his resignation from the Chief Ministership. The move to oust Mr. Hanumanthiyah from the Chief Ministership and leadership of the Congress Party started in July with a motion of no-confidence against him by the majority members of his party.

Orissa

New Governor

Rashtrapati Bhavan announcement on August 16 said that the President had appointed Mr. Bhim Sen Sachar, former Chief Minister of Punjab, as Governor of Orissa in place of Mr. Kumaraswami Raja, who had resigned owing to ill health. Mr. Sachar took charge of his new office early in September. Twice the Chief Minister of the Punjab since independence, the 59 year old leader joined the Congress in 1921.

New Chief Minister

Mr. Harekrushna Mahtab will relinquish the Governorship of Bombay on September 30 and will leave the same day for Cuttack to take over charge as Chief Minister of Orissa.

Pradip Port

Mr. O. V. Alagesan, Deputy Transport Minister, told the Lok Sabha on August 16, that a survey party of technical experts from Japan was now on a visit to Orissa to prepare a project report for the development of the Pradip port. The experts had come at the instance of the Orissa Government.

P.E.P.S.U.

More Municipal Committees

The PEPSU Municipal (Amendment) Act, 1956, came into force on September 1. The Act seeks to amend the Punjab Municipal Act, 1911, and provides for the constitution of Municipal Committees Class III to replace the existing small town committees and to repeal the PEPSU Small towns Act, 1954. It also empowers the Government to require a municipal committee to impose any tax not already imposed or to modify the rate of any tax already imposed and to levy the tax, and modify the rates themselves, in case of default of a municipal committee with a view to improving and stabilizing the financial conditions of local bodies.

Jaitu Committee Superseded

The Municipal Committee, Jaitu, has

been superseded under section 238 (1) of the Punjab Municipal Act, 1911, and the Sub-Divisional Officer, Faridkot has been appointed Administrator until the Committee is reconstituted. The Government notification said that the Municipal Committee was incompetent to perform the duties imposed on it under the law.

Pondicherry

Representative Assembly

Mr. Kewal Singh, Chief Commissioner of Pondicherry, in his address to the opening session of the Pondicherry Representative Assembly on August 25 expressed the hope that the treaty of cession governing the *de jure* transfer of the former French establishments, signed by India and France on May 28 last would be ratified without much delay so that Pondicherry State could play a more active role in the political and economic life of the nation.

The Chief Minister said that Rs. 75 laks had been allotted for development project during the year. This was apart from Rs. 20 laks sanctioned for a new pier and Rs. 8 laks for a medical college. Extension of electricity to rural areas was going apace.

The Chief Minister appealed to members to use their influence against unhealthy criticism.

New President

Mr. Kamichetty Parasuram of Yenam was elected President of the Pondicherry Representative Assembly in place of the retiring President Mr. Purushothama Reddiar, all the 26 Congress members in a House of 39 voting for him. This also marked the end of four-month old split in the Congress Party, five of whose members had seceded in April last and voted with the opposition.

Mr. P. Shanmugham of Karikal was elected the sixth Councillor of Pondicherry Government in the vacancy by the death of Mr. Rm. A.S. Pakkirswami Pillai.

Punjab

Ambala Committee Warned

The Deputy Commissioner of Ambala has warned Ambala Municipal Committee that if there is no distinct improvement in the Committee's affairs soon, the Government will supersede it. In a communication to the Executive Officer, he has demanded immediate improvement in the working of the Committee and provision of better civic amenities for the public.

Municipal President Removed

The Punjab Government has removed Swami Darshan Das from the Presidentship and membership of the Tarn Taran Municipal Committee for certain grave irregularities. He has been disqualified for three years from contesting the municipal elections.

Corporation For Amritsar

The Deputy Minister for Local self-Government, Mr. Ramkishan, told the President of Amritsar Municipal Committee, Mr. Durga Das Bhatia, and its other members that Amritsar Municipality was likely to be raised to the status of a Corporation by early next year and the next municipal elections would be held after the formation of this Corporation. The Amritsar Municipal Corporation Bill was likely to be brought before the State Assembly this winter. The Government was satisfied that Amritsar fulfilled all the conditions for a Corporation.

Vice-Presidents

Mr. Warayam Singh and Mr. Kriparam, both Congress, were electected on August 23 Senior and Junior Vice-President, respectively, of the Amritsar Municipal Committee by 22 to 7 votes.

Ferozepur President Removed

The Punjab Government, acting under Section 14 of the Punjab Municipal Act, 1911, removed Mr. Harnamsingh Modi, from the membership and Presidentship of Ferozepur Municipal Committee and disqualified him from seeking office for three years. This was a sequal to the "mistake" made by Mr. Modi in the counting of ballot papers for the election of Vice-presidents in July last.

Mr. Dina Nath (Congress) has been elected the new President. Mr. Pritam Singh (Congress) and Mr. Hansraj Sharma were elected senior and junior Vice-presidents, respectively.

Hoshiarpur Committee Without President

The office of the President and Vice-President of Hoshiarpur Municipal Committee fell vacant on August 20 and 21, respectively. A meeting of the Committee had been called on August 22 to elect the new office-bearers, but the meeting fell through for want of quoram.

Advisory Committee for Chandigarh

The Punjab Government has appointed an advisory committee to advise the Capital Project Administration, for the development of the new town. The main functions of the committee will be such as are assigned to local bodies and it will continue to work unless an elected committee was constituted.

The committee will advise the Capital Project Administration on improving the town's sanitation, construction and designing of houses and shops, redressing the grievances of purchesers of plots in the Capital, fixation of fares and bus and rickshaw stops, levy of taxes, use of public amenities such as swimming pools and community centres.

The Secretary, Capital Project Administration, and the Estate Officer will act as chairman and secretary of the committee, respectively.

The first meeting of the Capital Advisory Committee under the chairmanship of its President, Mr. P. L. Varma, Secretary, Capital Project, was held on August 18. Mr. Varma appealed to the members to see that all citizens of Chandigarh take pride in their town and give a proof of their civic sense in the life of the new city. Several suggestions were made by the members for improving town's civic amenities.

Rajasthan

Bikaner Municipal Elections

The Congress Party has secured 16 seats out of 36 in the Bikaner Municipal Board, according to the results announced on August 27. The party position is as follows: Congress 16 Praja Socialists 4, Jan Sangh 1 and Independents 15. It was claimed that four of the successful Independent candidates were Congress sponsored.

Lachhmnagarh Clock Tower

Raja Kalyan Singh of Sikar on August 3 declared open a clock tower in Lachhmangarh, made at a cost of 1 lak in memory of Mrs. Jhummi Devi, sister of the late Raja Baldev Das Birla. The first story of the tower is in white marble. The Raja praised the munificence of the Birla Brothers and said the tower was a fine piece of sculpture. Mr. Madanlal Jajodia, Chairman of Lachhmangarh Municipal Committee, said the town was proud to possess a fine monument.

Jodhpur Board Elections

Speaking in Jodhpur on August 9 Local Seif-Government Minister Mr. Badri Prasad Gupta said the twofold objective for which an administrator for the Jodhpur Municipal Board was appointed, had been very nearly reached. Octroi duty had been levied and arrangements for holding fresh elections were in full swing. He hoped the elections would be held soon.

Uttar Pradesh

New Civic Administrators

Mr. B. D. Sanwal, Administrator of Kanpur Municipal Board, has been appointed Secretary to the U. P. Government in the Local Self-Government, Mr. M. A. Qureshi, Administrator of Agra Municipal Board and Improvement Trust, has been appointed Civic Administrator in Kanpur Mr. P. N. Kaul has succeeded Mr. Qureshi in Agra.

A change is also likely in Allahabad, as its Civic Administrator Mr. S. G. Bose Mullick is reported to have been selected for the post of Secretary of the State Trading Corporation in the Union Commerce Ministry.

Executive Officers' Conference

The Annual Conference of the U. P. Municipalities Executive Officers and

Secretaries Association which was to be held at Kanpur on September 22 has been postponed on account of Chief Minister's inability to inaugurate it on that date owing to certain unforeseen circumstances. The Chief Minister has been requested to fix up some other date for the Conference, writes Mr. P. N. Bajpai, Honorary General Secretary.

Town Planning Scheme Upheld

Mr. Justice Mehrotra of the Allahabad High Court had dismissed a writ petition filed by 35 residents of Kanpur, who had challenged the validity of the Trust's Tarwala Hata slum clearance scheme. His lordship held that at this stage when the impugned scheme had already received the sanction of the State Government, the court could not go into the question whether the "conditions" required for passing a resolution by the Kanpur Imrovement Trust or the Development Board to the effect that such a slum clearance scheme could be framed existed in this case or not. His lordship further held that the Development Board, Kanpur, was competent to execute the scheme even though the scheme had been framed by the Kanpur Improvement Trust in 1938. The petitioners had challenged the validity of the scheme which sought to deprive them of several small houses in the area on the ground that the real purpose of the Development Board was not to make the locality clean but to sell the land at a higear price. They claimed that the locality was clean and the sanitary conditions there were good. The execution of the scheme had been held up during the war owing to non-availability of building material in Kanpur.

Non-refundable Octroi

Mr. Ali Zaheer, Minister for Local Self-Government, on August 14 announced the introduction of a non-refundable octroi system in Meerut from the following day.

He told newsmen that if the new experiment succeeded, it would be extended to other towns.

The main features of the system are :

Octroi duty will be charged only on goods which are meant for consumption, use or sale within the municipality according to a new prescribed schedule of rates. There will be no refund thereof at any time thereafter.

Goods meant for temporary detention will have to be stored in a bonded warehouse which must be made available by the Municipal Board as a trade convenience to importers. The Board can charge rents for the storage of goods in these warehouses. In case the importer wishes to take his goods from the warehouse for immediate export the goods will be exempted both from Octroi and toll.

Another feature is the levy of the octroi on inter-municipal sales.

Mr. Ali Zaheer said that the Taxation Inquiry Commission had recommended that octroi should ordinarily be levied on the basis of weight and not *ad valorem* since the latter causes delay and harassment. The entire schedule of rates prescribed for the Meerut Municipal Board was now to be on weight basis except in regard to certain items, such as bricks, poultry, animals and cars, where it was necessary to fix the basis according to their number.

Strike Threat

The Hardwar Municipal Board Employees' Union at an emergency meeting held on August 8, unanimously decided to go on a complete strike from September 15, if their ten demands, already passed by the Municipal Board on January 19, were not implemented by the authorities by then.

West Bengal

Corporation Strike Averted

On August 23 a meeting of the workers and employees of Calcutta Corporation decided to withdraw the strike notice, given on July 11 by the 13 of the Unions of the Corporation workers and employees, covering more than 26,500 employees, according to which they were to have gone on a strike on August 21. The strike had been, however, deferred till August 23 in view of the offer made by the Corporation on August 20.

The strike was withdrawn in view of the following concessions announced by the

Corporation on August 20: flat rate increment of Rs. 3 for all workers and employees drawing salaries upto Rs. 350 a month, retrospectively from April, 1956; monthly house rent allowance of Rs. 2 to the men of Inferior Services, also retrospectively from April, 1956; and permanency in stages of some 7,000 of the temporary hands.

Four of the points in dispute between the Corporation and its employees and workers were referred by the State Government for adjudication, after attempts to settle the dispute through conciliation had failed. The issues which will be adjudicated upon by the Tribunal are: Increased dearness allowance; increment of basic pay and revision of grades for all categories of employees and workers; increased house rent; and Leave and holidays.

Financial Implications

Mr. Nareshnath Mookerji, Chairman of the Finance Committee told the Corporation that the total cost of nine out of eleven demands will be Rs. 1.67 crore. These nine demands excluded one relating to revision of grade which was already before the Corporation and the confirmation of temporary hands which will cost the Corporation Rs. 11 laks. With the inclusion of these two demands, the financial involvement of the Corporation would rise to Rs. 2 crore.

Mr. Mukarji said the estimated revenue of the Corporation was Rs. 7 crore, and their present establishment cost Rs. 3.3 crore, which was 46 percent of the estimated revenue. If all the demands were conceded, the establishment cost would rise to Rs. 5.3 crores, which would make it 76 percent of the estimated revenue. Taking into account the Corporation commitments of Rs. 40 laks to the Improvement Trust and Rs. 60 laks for the interest on loans and sinking fund, the Corporation would be left with barely Rs. 70 laks to meet the various other demands, like paying the teachers of primary schools, repair of roads, etc.

In regard to Rs. 40 minimum wage demand, Mr. Mukerji said the State Government had already appointed a Minimum Wages Advisory Board for employees of Corporation and other municipalities.

Tube-Well Scandal

Mayor Prof. Satish Chandra Ghosh told the Corporation meeting on August 17 that decision to call in police to help them in the investigation of what was known as the "tube-well scandal" was his own. He had done so as he had reached the conclusion that all their efforts to probe into the scandal would not lead to the truth. The Police report, along with the report of the special committee already appointed by the Corporation, will be placed before the House.

The Opposition member Mr. B.K. Daw said the Police had searched the houses of those very Opposition councillors who had taken special interest in the appointment of the committee to probe into the scandal. It was a political game on the part of the majority party, he alleged. The Mayor said he had no knowledge of police searches. He denied that he was trying to belittle the Opposition party, adding that he was not seeking re-election to the Corporation.

The Police are reported to have searched the houses of five U. C. C. Councillors and some senior officers of the Corporation.

"Architect of Calcutta Corporation"

A memorial meeting on August 6 in Calcutta to commemorate the 32nd death anniversary of Sir Surendranath Banerji passed a resolution requesting the Calcutta Corporation to re-name the Curzon Park as Surendranath Park. In this park there is already a life-size statue of Surendranath.

The Mayor, Mr. Satish Chandra Ghosh, who presided over the meeting, chided the people of Calcutta for the poor attendance, showing that the memory of one who was a giant among the men was fading away. Most of the audience present was hoary-headed, he noted.

Sir Surendranath's 1923 Corporation Act had made the Corporation of Calcutta as a genuine body of elected representatives of citizens. This Act had been replaced by the Act of 1951. It was their grievances that

Corporation was now an adjunct of the Writers' building (Govt. Secretariat) and its affairs should be dominated by the Government, as they were before 1923.

The Mayor recalled that when Dr. B. C. Roy, the Chief Minister had enquired why he (Mr. Ghosh) had not been able to achieve what had been done by Dr. B.C. Roy, when he was the Mayor, his reply was: "you were the Mayor under Sir Surendranath's Act, but I am functioning as Mayor under your Act."

Speedier Disposal of Building Plans

The Building department of Calcutta Corporation is being overhauled to remove the complaints of delay. Nearly 6,000 building plans are disposed of by the Department annually, representing 90 percent of those submitted, the remaining 10 percent being carried forward. From 11 Building surveyors, the strength of the Department is being raised to 14. Besides, there will also be a Chief Surveyor of the Insecure Buildings. Several thousand cases of unauthorised constructions are pending in courts.

Electric Crematorium

An electric incinarator has been provided at the Calcutta Crematorium. Manufactured by a Swedish firm and installed at a cost of Rs. 2.5 lakhs, it would cremate body in about an hour's time,

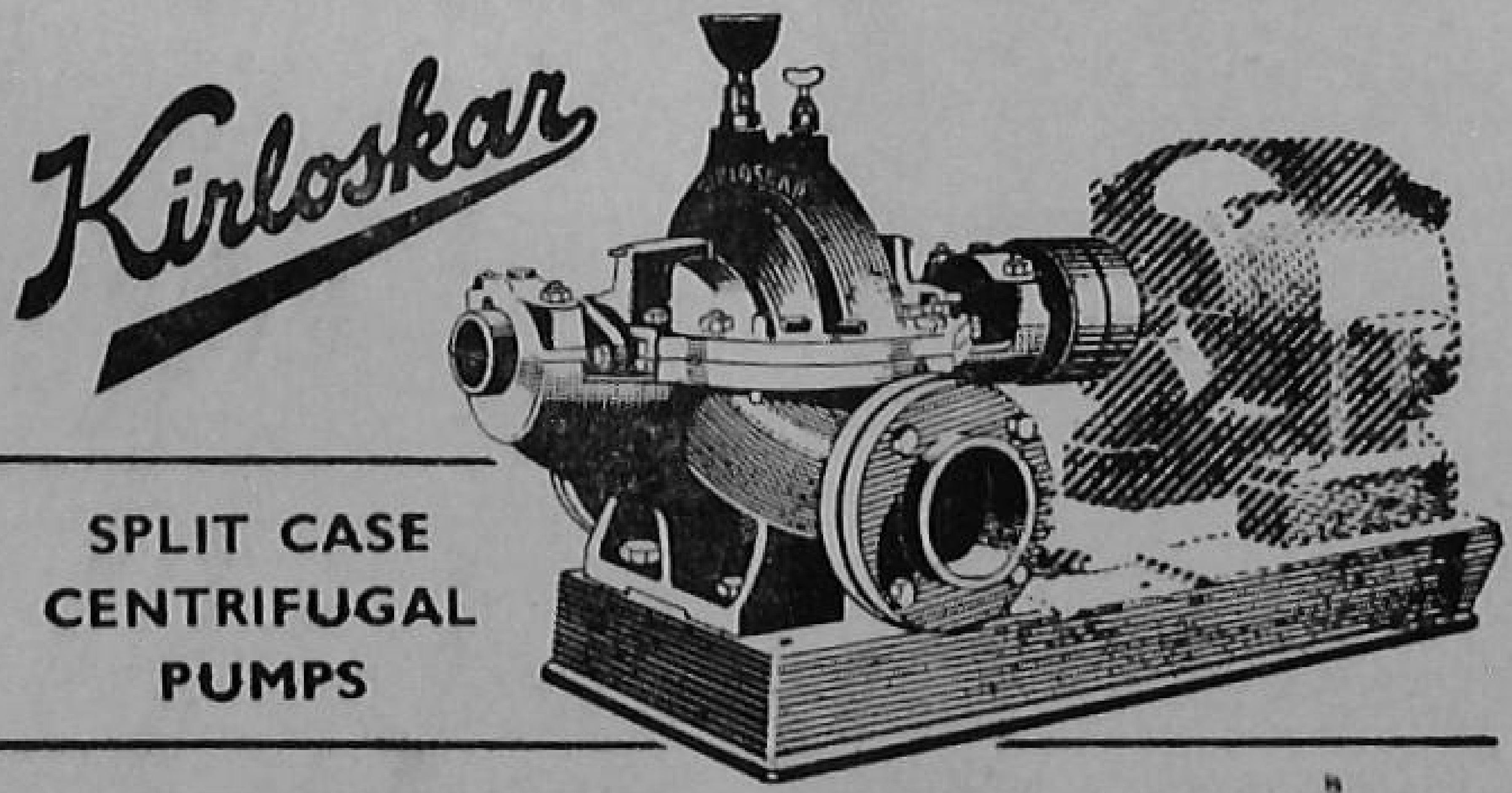
The crematorium was formally opened by the Chief Minister Dr. B. C. Roy in the Mysore Gardens on August 7. Dr. B. C. Roy, said it was the culmination of one of his long-felt wishes.

The cremation furnace would put an end to the existing practice of cremation which gave least respect to the dead, he added

The cost of each cremation is likely to be Rs. 10 for adults and Rs. 5 for children.

New Governor

Death occured on August 7 of the Governor Dr. H. C. Mookerjee. Mr. P. B. Chakravarti, Chief Justice, has been sworn in as Acting Governor.



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KANPUR DEVELOPMENT BOARD

NOTICE

Sealed item rate tenders on the Board's standard tender form to be obtained from the Board Office on payment of fee mentioned against the work in the schedule below are invited for the following work on the date mentioned therein.

Name of work	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Security	Dt. of Rct. of tenders	Cost of tender form	Time of completion
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Constructing Trunk Sewer No. 2 in its upper reacl from Gumti No. 9 on G. T. road and Muir road crossing via Kakadeo, Bumba road, Kalpi road, Hamirpur road, Railway colony, Dhakanapurwa & Rly. yard near old Kanpur station along with Kalpi road branch sewer.						
(a) Part I. 24", 33", 42" dia. sewers from Gumti No. 9 to Kalpi road via Kakadeo and Bumba road.	3,69,880/-	3,699/-	7,398/-	5.10.56	10/-	18 months.
(b) Part II. 54" dia. sewer from Kalpi road to Hamirpur road via bumba along with 24", 36", 42", 45" and 48" dia. Kalpi road and branch sewer.	5,29,804/-	5,298/-	10,596/-	5.10.56	10/-	18 months.
(c) Part III. 60" and 72" dia. sewer from Hamirpur road subcry to G. T. road and Muir road crossing via railway colony Dhakanapurwa and railway yard near old Kanpur Station.	3,93,698/-	3,937/-	7,874/-	5.10.56	10/-	18 months.

Tenders will be opened by the Chief Engineer on 5.10.56.

Authority is reserved to reject any or all of the above tenders received without assigning any reason therefor.

The successful tenderer must deposit a sum as per column 4 of the schedule above at the time of signing the contract on the Board's standard contrace form.

A further sum representing 10 % of the cost of work paid in each bill will be deducted as security till the total security of 10 % is recovered.

The Amount of earnest money as per column 3 of the above schedule will be forfeited out of the permanent deposit made at the time of enlistment, and acceptance of the tender withdrawn in case the tenderer fails to sign the contract deed & deposit the stamp paper & security within fifteen days of being called upon to do so after the acceptance of the tender.

Tenderers, if they so desire, may remain present at the time the tenders are opened.

Date 31.8.56.

Executive Engineer,

Personal Paragraphs

Mr. C. D. Deshmukh

Mr. C. D. Deshmukh, who recently relinquished the Finance Ministership of Government of India has agreed to serve as Chairman of the University Grants Commission. Although the post carries a salary of Rs. 3,000 per month, Mr. Deshmukh will draw only a nominal salary of Re. 1 per month.

Mr. H.V.R. Ienger

Mr. H. V.R. Ienger, I.C.S., Secretary to the Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry, has been appointed Chairman of the State Bank of India in succession to Dr. John Matthai, who resigned from that office recently. Belonging to the Bombay cadre, Mr. Ienger served as Private Secretary to the Prime Minister, Secretary to the Constituent Assembly, and Secretary in the Union Ministry of Home Affairs before joining the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Mr. C.V. Narasimhan

Mr. Chakravarthi V. Narasimhan, I.C.S., Joint Secretary in the Finance Ministry of Government of India, has succeeded Mr. P. S. Lokanathan who had served as ECAFE's first Executive Secretary since 1947. ECAFE, one of the three regional economic commissions of the United Nations, has its headquarters in Bangkok.

Mr. S. K. Patil

The Governor of Bombay, Mr. Harekrushna Mehtab, felicitating Mr. S. K. Patil on his 56th birthday on August 14 said Mr. Patil was going to have "a bright future within a short time". The Governor added: "I can easily forecast that he will score very soon." Replying, Mr. Patil said, "I only live on that hope".

Mr. B. K. Patel

The death occurred in Bombay from heart failure on August 23 of Mr. B. K. Patel, I.C.S. (50), chief executive of the Scindias. Hailing from Gujrat, Mr. Patel joined the I.C.S. in 1929. In 1946 at the comparitively young age of 40 he was posted as Commissioner of Bombay Municipal Corporation, which he served for six years. From here he went as General Manager of Air India International.

Mr. Kanti Chaudhari

Mr. Kanti Chaudhari, Depury Secretary in the Defence Ministry, has been appointed Director of Military Lands and Cantonments.

Dr. B. V. Bhoota

Dr. Baboobhai V. Bhoota, a Public Health Engineer of Bombay, has been elected to the Board of Directors of Dorr-Oliver (India) Ltd. Hailing from Kathiawar, Dr. Bhoota received a Master of Sciencc degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1940. His work on high-velocity flow at Iowa University earned him the University's highest grades and the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in 1942. Upon completion of his studies he joined the Dorr-Oliver staff in the U. S. In 1946 he returned to India as a Public Health Engineering representative, the post he now holds with Dorr Oliver (India) Ltd. He is a member of the Public Health Engineering Research Committee of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research and Hon. Secretary of the Public Health Engineering Group.

Mr. B. K. Chatterji

Mr. B. K. Chatterji of Calcutta who has been associated with the Dorr-Oliver organisation in the field of sugar tchnology has also been elected a Director of Dorr-Oliver (India) Ltd. After serving as Chemist in a number of sugar mills in India Mr. Chatterji joined Dorr-Oliver staff in India in 1937.

Mr. Santosh Kumar Chatterjee

Death occurred on July 28 of Mr. Santosh Kumar Chatterjee (42), Editor of the Calcutta Municipal Gazette and the public Relations Officers of the Calcutta Corporation.

Crime Detection By Microscopes

By R. K. Singh,

Engineer-Manager, Govt. Precision Instruments Factory, Lucknow

In recent years microscope has begun playing a valuable part in crime detection. Criminals having adopted more scientific methods, for crime detection too resort to science becomes necessary. A Bullet-Comparison Microscope is an essential instrument of crime detection to-day.

When a bullet is fired from a gun, it gets certain marks on its outer skin from the machining marks and scratches inside the barrel and on its grooves. It is not unusual to find empty cartridges around where the crime has been committed.

If a test cartridge is fired from the firearm suspected to have been used for committing the crime, and the empty cartridge used for comparison with the one found near the place of crime, the guilt or innocence can be established. For this comparison the two empty cartridges are placed under the Bullet-Comparison Microscope and observed simultaneously through one eye-piece. A dividing line incorporated in the microscope separates the images of both the objectives under observation. A camera can be mounted on the microscope and a photograph taken.

Where empty cartridges are not found near the place of crime, the bullet taken out of the body of the victim can be used for the same purpose, and compared with the bullet fired from the weapon under suspicion, the test bullet being obtained by firing it into a box filled with cotton wool or water column of sufficient length to slow down the velocity of the bullet. On bullets fired from the same firearm identical marks will be found on the outer skin.

The Bullet-Comparison-Microscope can also be used for comparing hair and other similar objects found at the place of crime with hair etc. of the suspected persons.

Certain special features have to be incorporated in the microscope to make it serve the special purpose. For example provision has to be made for moving both the test pieces, independent of each other. The up and down movement should also provide with fine adjustment to permit accurate focussing of the objects fitted with knurling knods and actuated by rack pinion. Two different illuminating systems have to be provided.

Such a microscope has been developed in Government Precision Instruments Factory at Lucknow with the co-operation of Mr. S. N. Gupta, Superintendent of Police, and Mr. Kurt Schroeter. The instrument so developed and manufactured is already in use and has given perfectly good performance.

The cost of the Bullet-Comparison-Microscope manufactured in the Lucknow factory is only one-third of similar microscopes imported from overseas, and it can be reduced still further if the manufacture is taken on a large scale.

I.C.A.R. To Popularise Floriculture

"Say it with Flowers" is the theme of a new scheme of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

To popularize floriculture, it is intended to arrange competitions at different stages in the raising of compound gardens in bungalows, besides gardens and lawns in schools and colleges and community project areas. These competitions will be run in co-ordination with the Ministry of Education and the Community Projects Administration.

State Governments are being asked to include floriculture in the syllabi prescribed for instruction under the subject of horticulture in their agricultural colleges.

It has been decided to set up a Floriculture Committee under the ICAR to encourage the cultivation of ornamental trees, shrubs and annuals. This will function as a scientific committee of the Advisory Board of the Council. Schemes to raise better varieties of seeds and specialize in selected plants, such as orchids, lawn grasses and tropical plants of the southern region, will be invited for the Committee's consideration.

Local Government In Japan

H. E. Mr. Seijiro Yoshizawa, Japanese Ambassador in India speaking on the Local Government in Japan on August 3 at the third sitting of the Public Forum of the Delhi Municipal Committee, said before the War Japanese had a local government system which was instrumental in training her people in ruling themselves. If such system as existed in pre-War days be termed as half-hearted endeavour in the administration of local bodies on democratic principles what was brought about by the post-war reforms could be said to be full-fledged practices of democracy since it was based on the Constitution which now unequivocally stipulates that sovereignty resides in the people.

Japanese local government, Mr. Yoshizawa continued, is defined by three basic principles set forth in the Constitution. First, regulation concerning organisation and operation of local public entities shall be fixed by law in accordance with the principle of local autonomy. Second, the local public entities shall establish assemblies as their deliberative organs in accordance with law. Third, the chief executive officer of a local public entity, the members of its assembly and such other local officials as may be designated by law shall be elected by direct popular vote within its community.

Major national legislations concerning local government were the Local Autonomy Law, Local Public Service Law, Local Tax Law and Local Transfer Tax Law.

Local public entities in Japan are divided into two categories. One is that of Prefectures, which function as a liaision or intermediary between the Central Government and smaller entities of cities, towns and villages within their respective jurisdictional boundaries, which constitute another category There were 46 Prefectures as against 6,960 cities, towns and villages as on February 1, 1955. The prefectures might be compared to the States in India in their functions. Prefectures also act as a mediator in inter-community matters and undertake programmes and projects which are beyond the administrative ability of cities, towns and villages within their boundaries.

There is vast difference in area and population between the Japanese Prefectures and the Indian States. While Uttar Pradesh has an area of 1,13,409 sq. miles and

H. E. Seijiro Yoshizawa,

is a career diplomat. Born 1893, *he graduated from Law Department of Tokyo Imperial University, in* 1917, *and same year he entered the Diplomatic Service of Japan and was posted in London as an attache.*

He has seen service in Tsinan, Foochow, (China), Germany, Italy, Manchuria and U. S. A. In 1937, *he was appointed the Director of the American Affairs Bureau, Foreign Ministry. Then went to Ottawa, in* 1940 *as Japan's Minister Plenipotentiary to Canada. After the war, he was appointed as the Deputy President of the Central Liaison Office, Foreign Ministry, and in January,* 1948, *was made Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs. In October,* 1948, *resigned from this post at his own request. He was Chief Executive Director of the Institute of World Economy, non-profit resoareh institute of economics, until his latest governmental appointment, as Japanese Ambassador to India in June,* 1955.

over 6 crore population, Iwate, the largest prefecture on the main island of Japan has only 5,880 sq. miles in area with a population of 14 laks. The most densely populated Tokyo Metropolis, also a prefectural unit, has eight million people crowded in a tiny area of 796 sq. miles.

City, town and village governments take care of administration of communities within the respective limited areas of their responsibility. The administration of very small villages in Japan can be compared to the Village Panchayats in India.

The major matters dealt with by the prefectural government are: management of public senior high schools, payment of salaries of primary and junior high or middle school techers, protection of objects of archaeological and cultural significance, maintenance of public health and sanitation servicess, protection of livelihood of the destitutes, promotion of child welfare, measures for the unemployed, public housing programme, river control, construction and maintenance of roads, guidance and promotion of small scale industries, administration of police, etc.

The city, town or village government is responsible for the maintenance and administration of kinder-garten primary and junior or middle school facilities, enforcement of primary and junior school education which is compulsory, establishment of public halls and libraries, maintenance of water and sewage systems, operation of bus, street car and other public transportation facilities, execution of city planning programmes, construction of public housing units, construction and management of harbours, maintenance of fire department, etc.

The executive head of local government is a governor in the case of a prefecture, a mayor or headman in the case of a city, town or village. The office of all these executives is elective. There are no centrally appointed governors. A governor of the prefecture might be compared to the State governor in the United States in the sense that he is elected by ihe popular vote and responsible to the prefectural assembly.

The mayor is also elected by the direct popular vote of the duly qualified inhabitants of the local entities concerned. If a motion of no confidence is passed by the local assembly concerned, a governor or mayor or headman censured may dissolve the assembly and go directly to the people or else resign.

In addition to executive heads, prefectural, city, town or village governments have executive organs as the board of education and elections administration committee. At the prefectual level there are public safety commission to supervise police administration, personnel commission, committee of inspection to audit financial accounts, local labour relation board, etc., and at the level of city, town or village, there is always the agricultural committee in charge of matters relating to the utilization of agaicultural land. Members of certain executive commissions or committee are elected and some others are appointed by the executive head but such appointments must be approved by the local assambly.

The local assembly is composed of members elected by the direct popular vote of qualified inhabitants residing within the area of the local public entity concerned. In the case of a prefectual assembly, the number of assemblymen is datermined by the population of the prefecture, ranging from the minimum of 40 to the maximum of 120. The size of a city, town or village assembly is also proportionate to the population concerned and biggest city assembly has as many as 100 members while the smallest counterpart in a viliage may have only 12. The assembly is the legislative organ of a local public entity and is empowered not only to fix the budget and legislate on ordinances and regulations, but also take decisions on many other matters. It also possesses a broad authority to undertake investigation and inspection over executive organs and the carrying ont of their duties. The assembly is to sit at session at least four times a year each session being convoked by the executive head concerned.

The inhabitants of a local public entity possess the right not only to elect the head of the local government and members of the assembly and certain executive organs but also, in prescribed instances, to make direct demand for the dissolution of the assembly, enactment, amendment or abolition of local ordinances or regulations, removal from offices of the governor, vice-governor, mayor, deputy mayor or other executive officers and inspection of and enquiry into local government affairs.

Dealing with the financial aspect of the local government in Japan, Mr. Yoshizawa said that in the fiscal year April, 1954 to March 1955 the overall amount required for the operation of local government in Japan was almost equal to that for the operation of the central government. The amount was 1,000 billion yen or 1,333 crores of rupees.

The chief sources of local revenues are local taxes, local transfer taxes, local tax grants, national treasury payments funds, local government bonds, etc. Of the local taxes, prefectural governments levy inhabitant tax, enterprise tax, entertainment tax and tobacco excise duty. Cities towns and villages collect inhabitant tax, fixed assets tax, electric power and gas tax and tobacco excise tax. The local transfer taxes are assessed and collected by the central government on behalf of the local public entities and a fixed precentage is paid to the local governments according to the prescribed procedures, thus, for instance, nine tenth of entertainment tax and one third of gasoline tax collected by the central government are turned over to the local governments concerned. The local tax grants provide additional revenue for such local governments as find the revenue from normal tax sources are insufficient to meet administrative expenses. For this purpose, 22 per cent respectively of income tax, corporation tax and alcohol tax is earmarked.

Mr. Yoshizawa concluded: Although I am convinced that our local government system well conforms to the cardinal principles of democracy but it is far from being perfect. The present system of local autonomous government has been developed as one aspect of the overall process of more fully democratizing the government of the country after the war with a consequence that some reforms and innovations, because of their being effected in haste, have since been found not exactly in line to the conditions actually prevailing in the country. To look into the situation and rectify defects wherever necessary the central government appointed the Local Government System Research Council in 1952 to which problems are referred as they arise in the operation of local government system.

Such problems have been numerous and of veriegated nature. We have problems of re-demarcation of boundaries of local public entities—the Japanese version of States reorganization. As our problem in this regard has no language aspect involved they are fortunately never as serious as in the case of Bombay or the Punjab. But far more serious problems is the difficulty which confronts a great number of local public entities—both at prefectural and city, town or village levels—in financing their ever increasing expenditure, specially that on education. They suffer in deficit in their budget and they turn to the central government for grants and other relief measures. Tho Japanese people are, however, determined to foster healthy development of local autonomous government because they are firm in their belief that this is the only way to achieve democracy in its true sense and significance.

Civic Affairs In Neighbouring Countries

Burma

U Nu To Quit AFPFL Presidentship

U Nu who resigned as the Premier in June this year to reorganise his party said on August 17 in Rangoon that he would ask his colleagues to relieve him from the presidentship of the Party when it meets in January, 1957. When he resigned as Premier his party stipulated that he should return as head of Government after a year. In the interval, he had said, he would reorganise the pary which had lost several seats to pro-Communists in the general election earlier this year. U Nu on August 17 urged the Press to combat evil elements in the Party. "This Party has been in power for nine years. We too are human and I know that power tends to corrupt", he said.

Ceylon

Tamil Federal Party Convention

As a protest against the Government's Sinhalese only language policy, the Federal Party Tamils from the various parts of eastern and northern Tamil provinces commenced their "pilgrimage" on foot on August 10 to Trincomalee for the Party's annual convention on August 17 and 18. The Federalist leader Mr. S. J. V. Chelavanayakam, said in Colombo on August 10 there was nothing very unusual about this year's rally and conference, "the only difference being that due to certain political conditions some of the members would walk to venue."

On the eve of the Federalists' march, a number of other Tamil leaders had publicly dissociated themselves from it. Mr. G. Ponnambalam, Tamil Congress leader, said the march should have been on a non-party basis, of the Tamil nation as a whole on march to a Tamil National Convention. Two independent Tamil M. P.s characterised the march as highly provocative and asked the Premier to ban it.

The Premier persuaded the extremist Sinhalese organisation, Tirsinhala Jatika Peranuma from holding a counter march. Mr. P. Rajaratne, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Posts and Broadcasting, however, resigned because of his differences with the Prime Minister over the permission given to Tamils for the march.

Mr. S. Nateson, a former Minister of Ceylon, who was in Madras said on August 10, the Ceylon Tamils were very much frustrated, not knowing what to do with regard to the language issue.

Japan

Tokyo's Quincentenary : International Gathering of Mayors

Tokyo city this year marks the 500th anniversary of its founding and as one of the feature events of the celebration, 109 Mayors from the Capitals and Cities of 49 countries have been invited to participate by Tokyo's Governor Seichiro Yasui. Commemorative events take place from October 1 to 15. Edo Castle around which the Tokyo Metropolis grew up was built in 1457 by Dokan Ota. Tokyo today boasts of a population of more than eight million.

Tokyo Metropolitan Government officials hope that the city executives from all parts of the world will inspect Tokyo's post-war re-construction, and exchange views on such problems as administration, industry, trade and tourism. They also hope that "the Quincentenary observance of their city's founding will be published throughout the world and that due recognition will be given to their efforts to make Tokyo into an ideal capital befitting a peaceful and civilised nation."

Dr. Amar Nath Mookerji, Deputy Mayor of Calcutta Corporation, will attend the celebrations on behalf of his Corporation and also make a token present to the people of Tokyo.

Redevelopment of Greater Metropolitan Area

The Paliament has passed the Law of Greater Metropolitan Area Redevelopment

which aims at "construction and orderly development of the Greater Metropolitan Area whtch deserves to be the core of politics, economy and culture of this country, by laying down and carrying out the overall plan for this purpose." The Greater Metropolitan Area is defined as "the vast area in which are included the whole of the Metropolis of Tokyo and its neighbouring regions which are to be designated by a government degree". The Law seeks to establish a Committee of the Greater Metropolitan Area Redevelopment as an agency of the Prime Minister's office. The Chairmanship of the Committee shall be filled by a Minister of State, and it will have four other members, to be appointed by the Prime Minister with the consent of both Houses of Parliament. The Committee shall be responsible for mapping out the Greater Metropolitan Area Redevelopment Plan and to conduct an investigation necessary for it; to co-ordinate the matters to be put into effect under the said Plan and to promote carrying out of them. The Committee shall submit a progress report every year to the National Diet through the Prime Minister with ragard to the drafting and execution of the Redevelopment Plan and shall make public its outlines. The Committee will have a Secretariat headed by a Secretariat General, and the number of its staff shall be decided by another law to be enacted. A Council on Greater Metropolitan Area Redevelopment shall be set up in the Committee for making research and dealing with the matters entrusted to it by the Committee. The Greater Metropolitan Area Redevelopment Plan is divided into: Basic Programme, Construction Programme and Undertaking Programme. In the Basic Programme, population scale, land utilisation and other fundamental matters of the Greater Metropolitan Area shall be decided. In the Construction Programme fundamental matters (like housing, roads, transport, parks and green belts, water supply, sewage disposal, etc.) as regards the redevelopment of the Greater Metropolitan Area shall be planned in accordance with a government decree and the planning may be applied to the outside of the Greater Metropolitan Area. The Undertaking Programme shall be an annual programme for necessary undertakings to be specified by a government decree, to carry out the Construction Programme.

Research Council for Tokyo Metropolis

With the object of promoting sound development of the Metropolis of Tokyo through co-ordination and readjustment of its organisation and making its administrative and financial activities more efficient and rational, the Metropolitan Assembly last December by an ordinance decided on setting up the Council for Research of Metropolitan Organisation. The Council, composed of 13 members (including the Director of Tokyo Institute for Municipal Research) and 8 special investigators, as an advisory organ of the Governor of Tokyo was commissioned by the Governor on March 31 this year.

The Council according to Article 2 of the Ordinance, shall carry out survey on the following items in order to achieve the object mentioned in the previous article :— 1. The administrative character, system and organisation ; 2. the financial system ; 3. The relations between the Metropolis and the State ; 4. Regional administration to cope with a population increase, and 5. co-ordination and readjustment of the metropolitan organisation, and rationalisation of administrative and financial management. The matter the Governor has referred to the Council for the first time is "on the administrative system of Tokyo and its rational management.

Citizens' Opinion Survey

A survey of citizens' opinion on municipal services, conceived by the Planning Division, General Affairs Bureau of the Tokyo Metropolitan Government, has recently been completed. Its aim was to obtain necessary materials for deciding on what points the municipal administration should be focussed. This epecial survey was entrusted to the Institute for Survey of Public Opinion on Home Rule. The survey was made of 1,500 householders who were chosen by a classified random selection. Due to wrong address and refusal to be interviewed, the number of responses collected in effect were 1282.

The answers to the specified questions through an individual interview were arranged. Items of survey were: citizens' livelihood, compulsory education, countermeasure for juvenile delinquency, public welfare committee, national health insurance, aged people's home, health centre, public housing, water works, traffic, road, importunate peddlers, fire alarm telephone, and other services.

Korea

Rhee Party Wins Local Elections

President Syngman Rhee's Liberal Party won both the August 3 and 13 local elections except in the South Korea capital of Seoul, the Central Election Commission announced on August 18.

The Democratic Party, South Korea's official Opposition won 40 out of the 47 seats contested in Seoul city's special council election.

The Commission said some of the returns might have to be altered later if charges of election irregularities now being investigated were upheld.

It said complaints had been filed against 22 administrative chiefs and 24 local councillors.

Final returns for the August 13 elections for Seoul City Council showed that President Rhee's Liberals were overwhelmingly defeated. Only one Liberal was elected, against 40 Opposition Democrats and six Independents.

In the election the same day for 390 provincial councillors, the Liberal Party won 302 seats. Opposition Democrats 57 and Independents 31.

Nepal

Framing of Constitution

Mr. Bhadrakali Misra, President of the Praja Parishad, the ruling party, said in Kathmandu on August 11 that the only authority to give Nepal a constitution was the King. In his personal view, the Parishad chief said "the King is the only authority to give Nepal a constitution. In doing so, he might take the advice of any selected body of his Cabinet or any organization, ensuring association of the people. But ultimately, the King is the only authority."

King Tribhuvan's Proclamation

The Supreme Court of Nepal has dismissed Nepali Congress leader Mr. B. P. Koirala's petition for an injunction to restrain the Prime Minister, Mr. Tanka Prasad Acharya from doing anything against the late King Tribhuvan's royal proclamation on Nepal's first general election. The court held that the proclamation did not receive authentication of the royal red seal, and therefore it never enjoyed full legal validity. King Tribhuvan's proclamation said that Nepal's constitution would be framed by an elected body.

Giving his party's views on the object of the coming general elections, Mr. Bhadrakali Misra, said that Praja Parishad had not yet taken any decision in the matter. His party, he said, was not opposed to cooperation with other parties for consolidating democratic forces against reactionaries, and he did not rule out the possibility of an election alliance on this basis.

The party's working committee had already set up a Parliamentary Board.

General Elections

Mr. Sadath Ali Khan, Parliamentary Secretary to the External Affairs Minister, informed the Lok Sabha in New Delhi on August 9 that an officer of the Government of India, experienced in election work, has been attached to the Indian aid directorate in Nepal to assist the Nepalese Government in the preparations for elections in Nepal. This officer had been sent at the request of the Government of Nepal. Nepal had also asked the Government of India for assistance in regard to supply of publicity literature and documentary films of Indian elections to enable her to organize publicity for the elections. They had also asked for assistance in the printing of ballot papers and these requests were being attended to, Mr. Sadath Ali Khan said.

Nepali Congress Wants Dissolution of Ministry

The Working Committee of the Nepali

Congress— claimed to be country's strongest democratic party— on August 23 announced the adoption of a resolution withdrawing the party's support to the Praja Parishad Government.

The Committee accused the Government of "systematic strangulation of the democratic institutions like independent judiciary, Public Service Commission and free audit of Government accounts" and said this action had "revitalised dying feudalism and created chaotic conditions in the country."

The resolution asserted that the "situation would go out of hand" if King Mahendra did not take "immediate steps to dissolve the present Ministry". It demanded that the country's first general elections should be held on the declared date on the basis of adult franchise.

The Congress President, General Subarna Shamsher said his party blamed the Praja Parishad Ministry for the "increasing lawlessness, high cost of living, unemployment and corruption."

Five Year Plan

The Development, Minister Sardar Gunjman Singh, said in Kathmandu on August 14 that the outlay on Nepal's first Five Year Plan, originally estimated at Rs. 21 crores, has now been raised to Rs. 35 crores. Declaring that in broader aspects, work under the Plan had already begun, he referred to some development projects now under execution by the Government and which had been incorporated in the Plan frame. These were mainly minor irrigation projects undertaken with the help of the Government of India's Rs. 50 lakh grant made two years ago with the stipulation that the money was to be spent within four years.

Sardar Gunjman Singh said the highest priority would be given to development of communications. About Rs. 5 crores would be allocated to schemes under this head. The Government hopes to undertake construction of 900 miles of roads— 300 miles metalled, 300 miles of jeep tracts and 300 miles of mule tracts. All these projects will not be completed under the first Plan period and carried over to the second Plan.

Community Projects and National Extension Blocks will be allocated a sum of not less than Rs. 3 crores. A multipurpose hydro-electric project, Trisuli, north-west of Kathmandu, will be undertaken.

Indian Aid

The Prime Minister, Mr. Nehru told the Rajya Sabha on August 16 that no agreement had been entered into between India and Nepal with regard to India's aid in financing Nepal's first Five-Year Plan. The Government of India, however, "indicated to the Government of Nepal that we would be willing to provide financial assistance for the implementation of their Plan to the extent of Rs. 10 crores."

The U. S. A. and New Zealand are likely to join in the aid plan for Nepal.

New Governor

According to a Nepal Home Ministry's announcement made on July 31, General Gopal Shamsher, Inspector-General of Police, who was said to be responsible for foiling an alleged conspiracy early in July against the Government, had been made Governor of the border district of Birganj. Mr. Puran Bahadur Khawes had succeeded him as police chief.

Sino-Nepalese Talks

Talks between representatives of China and Nepal started in Kathmandu on regularisation of Nepal's relations with Tibet.

Nepalese Communists

A three member Nepalese Communist delegation headed by Mr. Manmohan Adhikari, General Secretary of the Communist Party of Nepal, will attend the eighth Congress of the Chinese Communist Party in Peking in September.

Financial Adviser

Mr. Fedrick William Gray of the U. K. is coming to Nepal in October to advise the Government on banking practices and ways and means for the commercial banking. He will also advise on specific problems arising out of the initial operations of the State Bank of Nepal and on problems relating to exchange stablisation.

Pakistan

Demonstration Against Prime Minister

A 5,000 strong crowd demonstrated outside the residence of the Pakistan Prime Minister in Karachi on August 15 at 1 A.M., demanding the arrest of Sir Gilbert Grace, Inspector General of Police, Karachi. On August 14 evening Mr. Mohammed Ali had been heckled at a public meeting organised by the Karachi Administration to celebrate Pakistan's Independence Day, over this affair. Mr. Ali promised that Pakistan service rules applied to Sir Gilbert Grace while on leave in London, and action will be taken against him, if he was found guilty.

Fartyseven arrests including that of Joint General Secretary of Pakistan Muslim League, were made on August 16. On August 15 evening the Chief Commissioner of Karachi, Mr. A. R. Khan, were replaced by Mr. N. M. Khan, Secretary of the Ministry of Refugees.

Pakistan's Ministry of the Interior on August 12 had announced that Sir Gilbert Grace, Karachi's Inspector-General of Police, had gone on "leave on account of illness". The announcement came in the wake of demands during the past few weeks by several political organisations in Karachi for the removal from office of Sir Gilbert Grace. These organizations charged the Karachi police administration with "abuse of power and high-handed behaviour towards the public."

Support For Mohammed Ali

A meeting of the members of the the Republican Party and the United Front of East Pakistan in Karachi on August 27, passed a resolution moved by Dr. Khan Sahib, Chief Minister of West Pakistan and leader of the Republican Party, expressing conference in the leadership of Mr. Mohammed Ali. The Muslim League membess had boycotted the meeting which had been convened by the ruling United Front-Muslim League Coalition Party. Fortyone members of the National Assembly pledged their loyalty and support to Mr. Mohammed Ali. Including five members who could not attend, Mr. Ali's supporters' strength was raised to 46 in a House of 77. Just before the Coalition Parliamentary Party met, Mr. I. I. Chandrigar, Law Minister, and Mr. Ali Mohammed Rashidi, Minister for Information, had submitted their resignation from the Cabinet.

Opposition Parties Merge

Six Opposition parties in West Pakistan, including the outlawed Red Shirts, following week-long discussions among the party leaders earlier in August, decided to merge into a single political organization. The parties are the Azad Pakistan Party, the Sind Awami Mehaz led by Mr. G. M. Syed, the former Red Shirts of the NWFP headed by Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, the Sind Hari Committee, the Baluchistan Wrore Pakhtoon led by Khan Abdus Samad Khan and Astrungul of Prince Abdul Karim. The representatives of these parties had decided to call a convention early in September to draw up a manifesto incorporating the political and economic goal of the new party. The announcement did not give the name of the new party. Except the Azad Pakistan Party, all the other merging organizations are opposed to unification of West Pakistan. Leaders of two of the parties, Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan and Khan Abdus Samad Khan, are at present in jail and under trial for demanding an autonomous province for the Pushtoons.

Separate Electorates

The West Pakistan Assembly on August 4 recommended by an overwhelming majority the adoption of the system of separate electorates for elections to the National and Provincial Assemblies. All the Hindu members and members of the Awami Mahaz opposed it.

Former G.-G.'s Death

Mr. Ghulam Mohammad, former Governor General of Pakistan died in Karachi on August 29. Born in Lahore, educated in Aligarh, Mr. Ghulam Mohammed was a member of the Indian Audit and Accounts Service. In 1942, he became Finance Minister of Hyderabad, and in 1948 he joined the Tatas as a Director.

After partition he became Finance Minister of Pakistan, which post he relinquished in October, 1951, to become Pakistan's Governor-General, from which post he resigned last year.

Singapore

Internal Self-Government The Goal

Outlining the policy of Singapore's second elected Government before the Legislative Assembly on August 29, Governor. Sir Robert Black, said the Government of Singapore stood for the early attainment of complete internal self-government. The failure of the all-party delegation led by Mr. David Marshall, former Chief Minister, earlier this year was a temporary setback.

Singapore would soon recruit its own armed forces, he said. He also forecast changes in taxation policy which would increase revenue and seek to lay the burden on the shoulders of those best able to carry it. Government would continue to encourage foreign investment.

Although the goal of union with the Federation of Malaya was still not in sight, links already forged were being strengthened to make both nations indivisible, the Governor said.

Citizenship Rights for Indians

The Malayan Indian Congress has passed a resolution calling for citizenship rights for Indian who have lived in Singapore for five years or are registered citizens of the United Kingdom.

South Africa

Group Area Act Against Indians

A South African Government Gazette Notice under the Group Areas Act published on August 5, required several thousand Indians living in the western districts of Johannesburg, to leave their homes and shops within the next two years. The Indians who are to be "evacuated" must prepare to leave for Lenasia, a specially proclaimed Indian township, 22 miles from Johannesburg. There they will have to trade among themselves. Lenasisa has so far been boycotted by Johannesburg's Indian community.

Some are ordered to vacate their premises within a year; others within two years. A third group has been notified that the areas occupied by the people in the group will ultimately be taken over for exclusive white occupation. Provision is made, however, in the Group Areas Act for non-white residents of the areas affected to apply for permits to continue living in their premises for a limited time. A spokesman of the Transvaal Indian Congress said that the Gazettee Notice means that the Indian communities will be uprooted. The Nationalist Government, this spokesman said, aims at trying to force South African Indians, through the Group Areas Act, either to accept repatriation to India or to take up employment as unskilled labourers.

U. N. Intervention

A conference claiming to represent the "entire Indian community of Transvaal" held in Johannesburg on August 25 and 26, under the Chairmanship of Mr. D. U. Mistry, decided to seek the support of the Asian-African nations to influence U.N. members "to take necessary steps to compel the Union Government to cease violating provisions of the U. N. Charter and the Declaration of Human Rights."

The Conference had been convened by the Transvaal Indian Congress to protest against recent Government proclamations which will uproot 20,000 Indians and more than 60,000 Africans, Chinese and Malays in Johannesburg in [illegible] of the Group Areas Act.

The conference also decided [illegible]rganise a day of hartal and mass prayers to protest against the Act.

It also urged Indians to boy[illegible] Lenasia or any other group area. [illegible]e Group Areas Act was the "pivot [illegible]partheid calculated to uproot and [illegible] the non-white peoples and force them [illegible]hettoes", the conference said.

Dr. Yusuf Dadoo, ban[illegible] President of the South Afrrcan Indian [illegible]gress, in

a message to the Indian people said, any weakening or any sign of panic will serve to encourage the Government to proclaim further group areas and to press on with its policy of apartheid.

Dr. Dadoo criticised certain Indians who, he said, were advocating co-operation with the Nationalist Government in the application of the Group Areas Act.

U.S.A.

Inter-American Municipal Congress

The sixth Congress of the Inter-American Municipal Organisation was held on August 17 to August 23 in Panama City, Panama. The four major topics for discussion were growth and development of urban and suburban areas, fiscal problems, intermunicipal cooperation, and scientific management at the executive level.

U. S. S. R.

Six Million Flats in Sixth Plan

Large-scale housing construction is under way in the Soviet Union, prompted by the constant increase in urban population and the appearance of new industrial centres. Between 1938 and the end of 1954, the number of cities in the country rose from 808 to 1515.

In the fifth Five Year Plan period (1951-55) 1,00,000 million roubles were spent on housing. In the sixth Five-Year Plan period (1956-60) houses with an aggregate living floor space of 205 million square metres, or six million flats, will be built in Soviet urban areas.

Every 20 minutes a house with 50 flats is commissioned in cities and industrial communities alone. In Moscow, 125 new flats are rendered for tenancy daily.

43 Percent People Live in Towns

In April last the population of the Soviet Union was 200,200,000.

At the beginning of 1956, 87,000,000 (43.4%) of the population lived in the towns, as against only 26,300,000 (17.9%) of the total population in 1926.

Of the employed civilian population 31% are engaged in industry and construction, as compared with nine per cent in 1913.

Inland Water-Ways

Although there are several waterways all over India where non-mechanically propelled craft still ply, the waterways have ceased to play an important role except on the West Coast and in Bihar, Bengal and Assam region.

Before the introduction of railways in the middle of the 19th century inland waterways played a very important role in the transport system of India.

The large navigable rivers like the Ganga, Brahmaputra and the Indus afforded speedier, safer and cheaper transport whether for troops, merchandise or pilgrims.

During the days of the East India Company, the riverways not only fostered trade in different commodities but were even a factor in shaping the course of history.

At present 1,557 miles of rivers are navigable by mechanically propelled country vessels and 3,587 miles of river stretches are navigable by large country boats. And it is estimated 5,000 miles of routes in India could be made navigable by modern power craft. It is more and more being recognised that inland water transport should be developed so that the country does not depend only on road and rail transport.

Schemes totalling over Rs. 3 crores for the development of inland water transport are envisaged during the Second Plan. These include dredging of important waterways, provision of aids to navigation such as radio-telephony and automatic beacons besides development of inland port facilities at selected centres such as Gauhati, Pandu, Dhubri, Karimganj, Patna and Manihari. Rs. 158 lakhs have been allotted for the development of Buckingham and West Coast canals in the south.

For the Ganga-Brahmaputra waterways, the Ganga-Brahmaputra Water Transport Board—set up in 1952—will be the main agency for carrying out of projects. In the South instead of constituting a separate board projects will be undertaken by the State Governments concerned; their work will be co-ordinated where necessary.

NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY

Rivision of Time Table from Ist October, 1956.

There will be a general revision of this Railway's Time Table from 1st October, 1956. Main features of the revision will be as under :—

1. INTRODUCTION

(I) 7 MB Up and 8 MB Dn. passenger trains will be introduced to run between Mokameh Ghat—Barauni Jn. thus providing an additional service on the section to the following timings.

8 MB				7 MB
1.35 ↑	a.	Mokemeh Ghat	d. ↓	22.55
0.35	d.	Semaria Ghat	a.	23.55
0.10	a.		d.	0 .35
23.25	d.	Barauni Jn.	a.	1 .20

(II) 7 MS Up & 8 MS Dn. passenger trains will be introduced to run between Sahebpur Kamal and Monghyr Ghat thus providing an additional service to the following timings.

8 MS				7 MS
18.30 ↑	a.	Monghyr Ghat	d. ↓	16.30
18.00	d.	Sahebpur Oamal	a.	17.00

(III) 309 Up Express train between Gorakhpur and Lucknow Jn. and 327 Up passenger train between Lucknow Jn. and Kanpur Anwarganj will be introduced to run to the following abstract timings.

		309 Up Express	327 Up Pass.
Gorakhpur	d. ↓	5.00	
Gonda	a.	8.35	
	d.	8.47	
Lucknow Jn.	a.	12.15	....
	d.	....	15.15
Kanpur Cent.	a.		18.00
	d.		18.15
Kanpur Anwarganj	a.		18.30

(IV) 325 Up & 326 Dn. Passenger trains will be introduced to run between Savan & Gorakhpur to the following abstract timings :—

326 Dn.				325 Up.
21.45 ↑	a.	Savan	d. ↓	5.30
20.15	d.	Bhatni	a.	6.55
19.45	a.		d.	7.25
17.35	d.	Gorakhpur	a.	9.40

2. EXTENSION

(I) 301 Up & 302 Dn. Mail trains running at present between Siliguri Jn. and Lucknow Jn. will be extended to run between Siliguri Jn. and Kanpur Anwarganj to the following abstract timings :—

302 Dn.				301 Up.
9.50	a.	Siliguri Jn.	d.	18.00
↑				↓
4.35	d.	Katihar	a.	23.15
4.00	a.		d.	23.50
22.50	d.	Samastipur	a.	5.03
22.38	a.		d.	5.15
21.35	d.	Muzaffarpur	a.	6.17
21.23	a.		d.	6.32
20.10	d.	Sonepore	a.	7.50
19.55	a.		d.	8.05
15.00	d.	Gorakhpur	a.	12.55
14.40	a.		d.	13.15
11.05	d.	Gonda	a.	16.55
10.50	a.		d.	17.10
8.05	d.	Lucknow Jn.	a.	19.50
7.45	a.		d.	20.10
5.35	d.	Kanpur Anwarganj.	a.	22.20

(II) 252 Down Agra Fort-Kanpur Central passenger train will be extended to run between Agra Fort & Gorakhpur. The Train will run as an Express train between Kanpur Central and Basti & thereafter as passenger train up to Gorakhpur to the following abstract timings :—

		252 Dn.
Agra Fort	d.	6.15
		↓
Fatehgarh	a.	17.13
	d.	17.25
Kanpur Central	a.	22.40
	d.	22.50
Lucknow Jn.	a.	0.40
	d.	1.00
Gonda	a.	4.18
	d.	4.30
Basti	a.	6.20
	d.	6.32
Gorakhpur	a.	9.00

(III) 367 Up & 368 Dn. passenger trains running at present between Chupra & Aunrihar will be extended to run between Chupra & Jaunpur thus providing a direct service between Balia—Ghazipur & Jaunpur. This will be in place of 5 A J & 6 A J trains.

368 Down.				367 Up
23.55	a.	Chupra	d.	2.25
↑				↓
21.00	d.	Ballia	a.	4.46
20.45	a.		d.	4.56
18.03	d.	Ghazipur City	d.	7.10
16.50	d.	Aunrihar	a.	8.50
15.45	a.		d.	9.35
13.45	d.	Jaunpur	a.	11.50

(IV) 371 Up & 374 Dn. trains running between Allahabad city and Gorakhpur will be extended to run between Allahabad City and Gonda via Loop, replacing 416 Dn. & 421 Up passenger trains running on Gonga—Gorakhpur Loop section thus providing a direct service between Allahabad—Banaras & Nowgarh—Balrampur section, to the following abstract timings :—

371 Up ↑				374 Down ↓
9.35	a.	Allahabad City.	d.	4.30
4.55	d.	Banaras Cantt.	a.	9.30
4.35	a.		d.	9.50
21.45	d.	Gorakhpur	a.	19.45
19.35	a.		d.	21.00
15.53	d.	Nowgarh	d.	23.33
11.15	d.	Gonda	a.	5.00

(V) 439 Up passenger train running between Darbhanga and Bairagania will be extended to run between Samastipur and Raxaul and will be renumbered as 339 Up and 440 Down running between Bairagania & Darbhanga will run between Raxaual and Darbhanga as 340 Dn. to the following abstract timings :—

340 Down ↑				339 Up ↓
		Samastipur	d.	17.00
....		Darbhanga	a.	18.40
5.25	a.		d.	19.00
3.20	d.	Sitamarhi	a.	20·59
3.08	a.		d.	21.11
0.30	d.	Raxaul	a.	23.40

(VI) 345 Up & 506 Dn. passenger trains running between Muzaffarpur—Narkatiaganj will be extended to run between Narkatiaganj and Palezaghat, as 349 Up and 350 Dn. trains providing an additional direct service between Narkatiaganj—Palezaghat via Motihari to the following abstract timings :—

349 Up to Begaha ↑				350 Dn. ↓
3.50	d.			
3.25	a.	Narkatiaganj	d.	23.20
21.45	d.	Muzaffarpur	a.	4.30
20.45	a.		d.	5.00
18.45	d.	Sonepore	a.	7.00
18.15	a.		d.	8.20
17.45	d.	Palezaghat	a.	8.50
17.15	a.		d.	9.25
15.55	d.	Mahendrughat	a.	10.25
15.30	a.		d.	10.55
15.00	d.	Dighaghat	a.	11.30

(VII) 561 Up & 564 Dn. passenger trains running between Banmankhi—Murliganj & Murliganj—Katihar respectively will be extended to run between Banmankhi—Saharsa & Saharsa—Katihar respectively replacing 1 DS & 2 DS trains running between Saharsa and Dauram Madhepura to the following abstract timings :—

564 Dn.				561 Up
↑				↓
21.30	a.	Katihar		
17.50	d.	Banmankhi	a.	...
17.00	a.		d.	10.05
16.00	d.	Murliganj	a.	11.10
15.40	a.		d.	11.35
11.40	d.	Saharsa	a.	15.35

3. DIVERSION

321 Up & 322 Dn. Katihar—Allahabad City Prayag passenger trains will be diverted to run via Shahpore Patore instead of via Samastipur—Muzaffarpur and will run to the following abstract timings :—

322 Dn.				321 Up
↑				↓
8.15	a.	Katihar	d.	16.50
1.35	d.	Barauni Jn.	a.	23.10
1.10	a.		d.	23.40
23.35	d.	Shahpur Patoree	a.	1.25
22.05	d.	Sonepore	a.	3.05
21.35	a.		d.	3.35
19.45	d.	Chupra	a.	5.25
19.15	a.		d.	6.00
11.10	d.	Banaras Cantt.	a.	14.35
10.40	a.		d.	15.00
6.35	d.	Allahabad City	a.	18.50

4. CURTAILMENTS

(I) 213 Up & 214 Dn. Agra Express trains running between Chupra and Agra Fort will run between Agra Fort and Kanpur Central only to the following abstract timings :—

213 Up				214 Dn.
↑				↓
10.08	a.	Agra Fort	d.	15.00
24.00	d.	Fatehgarh	a.	0.37
23.45	a.		d.	0.52
19.30	d.	Kanpur Central	a.	5.00

(II) 1 KB Up, 2 KB Dn., 3 KB Up, and 4 KB Dn. passengers trains running between Kanpur Central and Brahmarvart will run between Brahmarvart and Kanpur Anwarganj.

(III) 313 Up & 314 Dn. passenger trains running between Jogbani & Kanpur Anwarganj will run between Katihar and Lucknow Jn.

(IV) 503 Up and 504 Dn. will not run between Mansi and Bhagalpur. 5 BT Up and 6 BT Dn. trains will run between Bhagalpur and Thanabihpur in place of 503 Up and 504 Dn.

5. CANCELLATION

353 Up and 354 Dn. passenger trains running between Sonepore and Barauli Jn. will be cancelled.

6. THROUGH SERVICE CARRIAGE

(i) One I, II & III class composite carriage running between Dauram Madhepura and Palezaghat will be extended to run between Palezaghat and Banmankhi.

(ii) One I, II & III class composite carriage will be introduced to run between Jayanagar and Palezaghat by 360 Dn./334 Dn./344 Up & 343 Dn./ 333 Dn./357 Up trains.

(iii) One I, II & III class composite carriage running between Kanpur Anwarganj and Amingaon, by 470 Dn./302 Dn./303 Up & 304 Dn./ 301 Up/469 Up will cease to run.

(iv) One Bogie III now running between Behariganj & Mahadeopur ghat will run between Katihar and Mahadeopurghat.

(v) One I, II & III class composite carriage running between Jogbani & Palezaghat will cease to run from 1.10.1956.

(vi) One Bogie III running between Savan & Palezaghat by 312 Dn./344 Up will run by 394 Dn./350 Up.

(vii) One I, II & III class composite carriage will be introduced to run between Sonepore and Katihar by 301 Up and 302 Dn. Mail trains.

(viii) One I, II & III class composite carriage will be introduced to run from 1.10.56 as an experimental measure between Maniharighat & Jogbani by 519 Up/557 Up and 558 Dn./520 Dn. trains.

(ix) Through carriages running between Maniharighat—Singhabad & Maniharighat—Radhikapur will be Bogie I & III composite and instead of Bogie I, II & III composite as shown in the Time Table inforce from 1.10.1956.

7. GENERAL

(i) 211 Dn. Kumaon Express trains will leave Agra Fort at 20/57 hours and not at 21/00 hours as shown in Time Table inforce from 1.10.1956.

(ii) 311 Up passenger train running at present between Katihar and Lucknow Jn. will run as sectional trains *i. e.* 323 Up between Katihar—Gorakhpur & 311 Up between Gorakhpur —Lucknow Jn.

(iii) Between Fakiragram and Amingaon the rake of 519 Up and 520 Dn. and a portion of 515 Up and 516 Dn. consisting of two Bogie third and one Bogie I & II composite will run as 515 Up and 516 Dn.

(iv) Between Palezaghat and Muzaffarpur the rake of 333 Dn. / 334 Up, through carriages from Jayanagar & Nirmali and a portion of 343 Up/ 344 Dn. consisting of two Bogies third and one Bogie I & II composite will run as 343 Dn./344 Up, thus enable passengers of all these sides to avail of a through service and reach Patna at 7.00 hours.

(v) TRAIN TIMINGS ON MANSI—SAHARSA—SUPAUL SECTION.

In case through communication on Mansi—Saharsa section is not restored by 1st October, 1956, trains on Mansi—Saharsa—Supaul section will run as at present to the slightly altered timings as under :—

3 SS	3 SM	1 SS	1 SM				2 SS	2 SM	4 SS	4 SM
	17.20		10.30 ↑	a.	Mansi	d. ↓		7.00		14.00
—	12.50	—	5.55	d.	Saharsa	a.	—	11.20	—	18.10
17.30	—	10.00	5.20	a.		d.	5.45	—	13.00	20.10
15.45		8.15	3.40	d.	Supaul	a.	7.30		14.45	21.55

(vi) SECOND CLASS ACCOMMODATION

There will be no second class accommodation on the following sections from 1.10.1956.

SECTION

Moradabad—Ram Nagar—Lalkua

Mailani—Dudwa—Gauriphanta

Dudwa—Chandanchowki

Dudwa—Kaurialaghat

Samastipur—Khagaria—Mansi via Hasanpur Road

Thana—Bihpur—Bhagalpur

Katihar—Behariganj—Murliganj—Saharsa—Mansi—Supaul

Mansi—Sahebpur—Kamal—Monghyr-ghat

Katihar—Radhikapur

Katihar—Singhabad

Siliguri---Haldibari

Alipurduar Jn.—Gitaladah—Moghal-ghat

Alipurduar Jn.—Raja Bhat Khawa—Jainti

Badarpur—Katakhal—Lalaghat

Maishashan—Karimganj—Dullab-cherra—Kalkalighat.

Train No. 720 Dn. between Badarpur—Karimganj will have no second class accommodation.

(vii) All trains will pick up their new timings from the midnight of 30th September—1st October, 1956 except the following trains :—

(a) 301 Up Oudh Tirhut Mail train will leave Siliguri Jn. at 18.00 hours on 30.9.1956 and run to its new timings.

(b) 334 Dn. will leave Narkatiaganj at 15.00 hours on 30.9.1956 and run to its new timings.

(c) 350 Dn. will leave Narkatiaganj at 23.20 hours on 30.9.1956 and to run its new timings.

(d) 450 Dn. arriving Sitapur at 21.50 hours on 30.9.1956 will leave at 22.00 hours and run to its new timings.

(e) 321 Up arriving Barauni Jn. at 20.55 hours will leave at 23.40 hours to its new timings and run via Shahpur—Patoree.

(f) 322 Dn. arriving Hazipur at 21/57 hours on 30.9.1956 will leave at 22/25

hours to its new timings and run via Shahpur—Patoree.

(g) 353 Up Barauni Jn.—Sonepore passenger train due to leave Barauni Jn. at 21.55 hours on 30.9.1956 will be cancelled.

(viii) (a) 504 A Dn. leaving Bhagalpur at 20.00 hours on 30.9.1956 will terminate at Thana Bihpur.

(b) 503 A Up due to leave Mansi at 23.30 hours on 30.9.1956 will be cancelled.

(c) 440 Dn. train running between Bairagania and Darbhanga will not run on 30.9.1956.

(ix) FERRY SERVICE BETWEEN AMINGAON AND PANDU

The timings of Ferry Services between Amingaon and Pandu will be as under and not as shown in the Time Table inforce from 1.10.1956.

22.15	20.35	11.30	9.45	A	Pandu	D	5.00	6.45	15.10	18.05
22.00	20.20	11.15	9.30	D	Amingaon	A	5.15	7.00	15.25	18.20

For other details, Time Table inforce from 1st October, 1956 may be consulted, copies of which are available at all important stations and book-stalls of this Railway.

PRO/T-30

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Summer Camp for Foreign Students at Pahalgam

Youth of 27 countries, numbering 114, of whom 18 were girls, participated in the Summer Camp for Foreign Students, organised by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations at Pahalgam, the famous summer resort in the beautiful Lidder Valley, 59 miles from Srinagar.

Fifty-three students in the camp were from the African continent, including East, Central and South Africa, Gold coast, Nigeria and the Sudan. Asian countries—Burma, Ceylon, China, Indonesia, Malaya, Fiji, Aden, Iran, Jordan and Israel—contributed 33 students. Three students were from Europe, one from South America and eight from British Guiana, Trinidad and West Indies. Sixteen Ind: Students had also been invited to joi. the camp.

These students had gathered from 24 different centres of study in India. During the first fortnight which they spent in Srinagar, the students visited various places of interest in and around that picturesque city.

While at Pahalgam, the students took part in a packed recreational programme. One evening's programme at the summer camp was a debate. The preposition before the house was "Arts can contribute more than Science towards peaceful coexistence in the world".

Students playing their morning game of football at Pahalgam Camp.

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